

1961 OF MORGAN YALDAY NEWS DAILY NEWS THURSDAY MARCH 30, 1961 - 21
THE WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS, THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1961 - 21

Reds Everywhere

Churches, Ike and Warren Have Been Birch Targets

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(The second of three articles)

By BARBARA BUNDSCHU,
United Press International

At the start of 1961 the John Birch Society had organized one to 100 chapters in each of 34 states and the District of Columbia, according to its founder, Robert Welch of Massachusetts.

Still to be organized: Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah and Vermont.

"The John Birch Society is to be a monolithic body," Mr. Welch said in a blue book of the organization's doctrine.

"A Republican form of government or of organization has many attractions and advantages, under certain favorable conditions. But under less happy circumstances it lends itself too readily to infiltration, distortion and disruption. And democracy, of course, in government or organization, is merely a deceptive phrase, a weapon of demagoguery, and a perennial fraud."

"The John Birch Society will operate under complete, authoritative control at all levels. No collection of debating societies is ever going to stop the communist conspiracy."

He hoped for one million dedicated members to fight the forces of evil with "evangelical fervor."

Paul H. Taibert, Los Angeles insurance executive who is one of the society's council members, estimated recently that it might have 100,000 members by the end of 1961, its third year.

MONEY

Mr. Welch said he wanted to raise a million dollars from sources other than dues during the society's first year—and even that amount is an awfully small drop in the bucket, against what either the direct communist propagandists or the reutherite labor bosses are spending against us.

There is no public accounting of either money or membership. Dues are \$24 a year for men and \$12 for women. Life memberships are \$1000, either sex. Appeals for additional voluntary contributions accompany virtually all mailings to members. Mr. Welch has said he draws no salary. There are 28 full-time employees at headquarters and the society is reported to be the largest single source of revenue for the Belmont, Mass., Post Office main floor.

Another 35 salaried persons work around the country as co-ordinators of member groups, and an additional 100 persons work full or almost full time as volunteers.

Welch frankly has borrowed the communist technique of setting up "front" groups for specific purposes. He acknowledged

"The John Birch Society is a semi-secret organization with a noble aim: Fighting communism. But its methods have stirred controversy in many U. S. cities. A UPI special reporting team was assigned to assist Barbara Bundschu, New York staff correspondent, in researching and investigating the organization, its purposes, operations and opposition across the nation."

that another technique he advocates—the use of loaded questions to smear a suspect he can't prove is a communist—is "mean and dirty."

Chapters operate at widely different levels of secrecy. In North Dakota, meetings are announced on local radio stations and everybody welcome. The North Dakota organization, with about 400 members in 19 chapters, was active in a proposal to outlaw the Federal income tax which was approved by the state's lower house but killed in the state senate.

JUDICIAL RUSH

In Dallas, Tex., a 32-year-old businessman member of the society wouldn't give his own name for publication. However, he explained: "Most of our members in Dallas are little people, just like I am. Most of these folks could not take a sustained smear attack. If it came along, they would probably be thrown out of their jobs. For that reason, the thing has been kept pretty quiet. There are no real millionaires in Dallas in it as far as I know."

There is no rule of thumb in Mr. Welch's book for members to determine on their own who is or who isn't a communist, or communist dupe.

There are ways of sizing up both individuals and organizations in this battle which come only with experience, a knowledge of the interlocking pieces and personalities and a feel for the way the communists work," says the "Blue Book."

"And while of course, I can make mistakes too, I know from the way my opinion of various characters, formed independently, has then proved to coincide with the opinion of J. B. Matthews... that I have a fairly sensitive and accurate nose in this area. So we do not intend to be frustrated by indecisions of this nature."

Mr. Matthews is an associate editor of Mr. Welch's "American Opinion" as well as the standard by which he checks his nose for communists. He resigned as chief investigator to Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy's Senate committee in 1953 after appearing in "The American Mercury" of Matthews' article stating that clergymen were the largest single group supporting the communist apparatus in this country.

The "most important activity" of the John Birch Society at the moment is its campaign to impeach Chief Justice Earl Warren.

In Mr. Welch's view, the Supreme Court's school decision and all the racial

troubles in the South have been brought about by communists to foment civil war. "Civil rights" is a communist slogan, "an exact parallel to the slogan of 'Agrarian reform' which was used in China," he has told members.

In his bulletin for March he urged them to write more letters to the same congressmen. The same letters, to more congressmen, and to the newspapers to prepare the way for undisclosed "specific actions" to come.

"There is plenty of evidence that we already have the pot of the Warren impeachment boiling," he said. "What we need now, by adding more fuel and blowing on the fire, is to give that pot a head of steam that will be looked at astance by anybody who might want to sit on the lid."

Republican Whip Sen. Thomas H. Kuchel of California, who said he had received about 200 such letters since October, described the campaign as "contemptible and vicious."

"One may, if he chooses, disagree on occasion with decisions of the Supreme Court, votes of a member of Congress, or a position which the American President takes," Sen. Kuchel said, "that is part of our right of free speech. But to attempt to heap slime and abuse on any public figure poses an extremely dangerous problem for self government in this country."

Rep. Edgar W. Hiestand (R., Calif.), is listed by the society as a member of its "Committee of Endorsers." Mr. Hiestand said he has been a member of the society for several years.

"It is a society of individuals dedicated to fighting communism," Mr. Hiestand said. "They make up their own minds. They are violently anti-communist. That is the one thing we have in common."

Rep. Gordon Scherer, (R., Ohio), a member of the House Un-American Activities Committee, also listed as an endorser, said he was not a member of the society, but "I look with favor on it."

The Senate Internal Security subcommittee is replying to inquiries with a form letter over the signature of its chairman, Sen. James O. Eastland (D., Miss.) It reads: "The John Birch Society, about which you asked, is known to be a conservative anti-communist organization officially. We are happy to state that it seems to be from our records, a patriotic organization. Very truly yours,"

All senators are not so sure. Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D., Mont.) told the Senate, "Something ought to be done to lay the facts before the American people so they can judge this organization for what it is."

The society's attack on churches apparently has brought it to the attention of more communities—and has more bitterly divided those communities—than any of its other activities.

A CONFUSION

The people of Arizona are getting two barrels at the moment. It is one of the Birch Society's "biggest" states. And it is receiving similarly concentrated attention from the American Council of Christian Churches, a fundamentalist group which has been waging a hot war of words for many years against the larger National Council of Churches. The division has been intensified by controversy over the House Committee on Un-American Activities' motion picture, "Operation Abolition," which is being promoted by the Birch Society, among many others, and which the National Council of Churches, also among others, has recommended not be shown without presentation of serious questions about its accuracy.

At Wichita, Kans., the society has moved to battle in policy matters in P.T.A., library and college. According to George H. Lewis, Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Wichita and director of the Kansas Council for Industrial Peace, they "virtually control the Wichita Chamber of Commerce and seem to have a dominant influence in the state Chamber organization."

"One of their major objectives in the state is to destroy collective bargaining. They are preparing to push thru some vicious anti-labor legislation during the next session."

MEMBERS of the society from coast to coast have professed themselves undisturbed by Welch's pre-social charge that President Eisenhower was not a dupe but a communist.

"If he (Eisenhower) is one, he doesn't know it," said a Santa Barbara woman.

Spruille Braden, former U. S. Ambassador, a member of the Society's council, said he didn't agree with the charge but that it in no way led him to question Mr. Welch's judgment on other matters.

"He may exaggerate sometimes," Mr. Braden said. "When you're in a barroom brawl, no holds are barred. You don't fight by the Marquis of Queensberry rules."

(Tomorrow: Mr. Welch gives his opinion of Mr. Eisenhower, Sen. Taft, Gen. MacArthur and Sen. Goldwater; action of the opposition)

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(File No.) 100-38767*

1. Ad. placed by John Birch Society. (1/14/64 pr)

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The Washington Post

Advertisement

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1963

PAGE A18

The Kennedy Center

There is now a solid possibility that the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts will be under construction next spring. This intensely exciting prospect depends, first of all, upon the bill that comes before the House Public Works Committee this morning. It enjoys the most impressive sponsorship: Mr. Buckley, the chairman of the Committee; Mr. Auchincloss, the ranking minority member; Mr. Jones, the chairman of the subcommittee, and Mr. Wright, a member of the Center's board. These four Congressmen have worked diligently with the Center's management to draft legislation that promises the earliest possible beginning to this great adventure of the spirit.

For the building itself, the bill provides a Federal grant to match private contributions. To cover the full cost of the garage beneath it and the additional land, the bill offers a Federal loan; the loan would be effective immediately upon passage, of course, and would mean that ground could be broken as soon as the first plans were drawn.

The urgency of the public fund drive will not end, certainly, with the enactment of the bill. Quite the contrary. The Federal grant is contingent upon the private gifts, and \$5 million of the private money is a Ford Foundation grant contingent upon \$15 million raised from other private sources. Barely half of that \$15 million is now in hand.

The long argument over the Center's location is now ended. We have in the past joined the controversy over the Watergate site, but events have clearly carried this enormously complicated undertaking beyond the point at which it could have been moved. The designers now have the responsibility to solve, by transit connections and pedestrian bridges over the Inner Loop, the question of access for those who do not come by private automobile.

The bill will have another brief hearing today, and then the Public Works Committee expects to vote on it immediately. With luck and good management, the sponsors believe, they can pass it before the Christmas recess. Thanks to their exertions we can hope for a prompt beginning to this most appropriate memorial to our late President.

Domestic Disarmament

"The entire question of disarmament as now discussed by Government agencies," said Rep. Robert Sikes of Florida on the House floor the other day, "carries dangerous overtones." Would you like to know what the danger was as Mr. Sikes saw it? He was on tenterhooks of anxiety that the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency might conceivably work out some arrangement with other countries that would in some way limit the private possession of guns and pistols by American citizens.

Mr. Sikes told his colleagues about the shocking situation he had encountered in certain for-

commitments have been filled accept the new estimates; they include the United States and West Germany. Britain, one of the laggards, holds on to the old 160-175 division estimates. And so it has happened that the strength of the Soviet army has become a source of friction within NATO. The footdraggers are now able to buttress their procrastination on intelligence grounds and, over the weekend, even Mr. Khrushchev got into the act.

Far more serious is the disturbing question of whether the new estimates were developed in order to stiffen the American argument for conventional forces and for a European defense strategy based upon them, or whether a fresh look at the Soviet establishment produced estimates which then were turned to political use. Unfortunately, the prerequisites of secrecy prevent a full and fruitful discussion of this question. The efforts to reduce the "division gap" may have produced a "confidence gap."

Needless Risk

The six United States Cabinet members who abandoned their exchange visit to Japan when the news of President Kennedy's assassination reached them in mid-Pacific have now rescheduled their trip for Jan. 27 and 28. That is fine. Such devices help insure the right relationships and understandings with Japan.

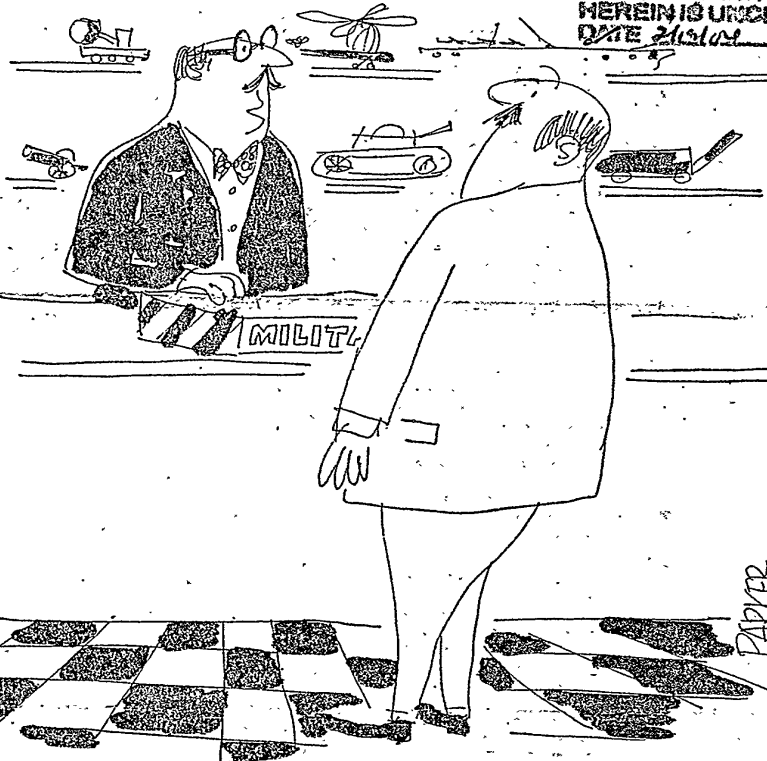
We hope the rescheduled visit will be changed in one respect. Last month, the whole party traveled in one plane. An accident to that plane, occurring at the same time as the death of the President, would have imperiled the very continuity of the Government. So large a part of the executive leadership should not be put into a single plane—or a single vehicle, for that matter. The travel plan should take the Cabinet members to Japan separately or in small groups. No prudent private firm would transport its top executives in one plane. The risk for the Government is even greater and ought to be avoided.

Tax Credits for Education?

The proposal to grant tax credits in order to lighten the burden of parents who are sending their children through college has an instant but superficial appeal. It is frequently defended by invoking an analogy: if the Federal Government can subsidize home ownership by making the interest on mortgages tax deductible, why shouldn't the same principle be applied to expenditures for higher education? The answer is that the analogy is not very close, and even if it were, there are other considerations which make such tax credits thoroughly undesirable.

"It's The Latest In Army Toys . . . A Fully Assembled Military Base Which The Child Must Dismantle!"

TOYS



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(These excerpts are taken from a Dec. 2 speech before the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce in Columbia, S.C. by LeRoy Collins, President of the National Association of Broadcasters and former Governor of Florida.)

Who May Speak For the South?

By LeRoy Collins

I DO NOT believe anyone is more genuinely proud of his Southern birth and "raising" than I am. I love this land. But some thoughts have been brooding in my mind lately, especially in the few mad days since the murder of our young President, and I think South Carolina and Columbia are good places for me to talk these out.

Not all of you will agree with what I have to say. This does not trouble me, and it should not trouble you . . .

Most of us, when we talk about the South, find the easy things to say. We like to recall the handicaps our region has suffered in the exploitation of its natural resources; the impoverishment which followed the Civil War, and the later unjust and repressive efforts made to thwart our growth and development. Then we like to speak of the happier days of our recent dynamic economic growth and prosperity—of the "new South," a land of vast new opportunities. And these things are all true. We can prove them by the bank deposits, by the new factories, by the lines on the charts, by the clothes we see children wear to school . . .

But let us think together this evening about things more personal than material progress.

I do not like it when people speak of Southerners as if they are not human parts of the United States. But the prime reason they do this is that for too long we have permitted the South's own worst enemies to speak for it.

WE HAVE allowed the extremists to speak for the South—the very ones against whom we in the South have had to struggle in our towns and in our state capitals, for much of the progress we have made. They have done it in speeches on the floor of Congress which have sounded like anti-American diatribes from some hostile foreign country.

They have done it in the national press and on the national radio and television to such an extent that citizens outside the South would be entitled to wonder if they might not need visas to pass through our region.

And all the while, too many of the rest of us have remained cravenly silent or lamely defensive while Dixie battle cries have been employed to incite sick souls to violence—egged on by the rabble-rousers' call to "stand up and fight!" It is little wonder that other Americans fail to regard us on occasions as being in the mainstream of American life and citizenship.

And I ask you tonight, how long are the majority of Southerners going to allow themselves to be caricatured before the Nation by these claghorns? How many Sunday School children have been dynamited to death? How many Negro leaders have to be shot in the back? How many governors have to be shot in the chest? How many Presidents have to be assassinated?

All those evil happenings have been the products of environments where hatred has been preached and lawlessness extolled—environments which you and I know are foreign to the South for which we care deeply and are repugnant to most Southerners. Violence and disorder will occur anywhere, regardless of the issue, when reason and discussion are allowed to give way to hate and acrimony.

Letters to the Editor

Moratorium on Hate

Your editorial of Dec. 6 calling Judge Howard W. Smith, chairman of the House Rules Committee, a "tyrant" seemed mean, hypocritical and hateful.

I am sure that you do not presume that your paper can hate, or has a license to peddle hate. It suits your purpose—but that every other person who disagrees or disapproves is a hatemonger or bigot. But you called a man a tyrant with sanctimonious abandon. Is not calling a man a tyrant as hateful as calling him a Communist? Which caller, really, is more bigoted or hateful?

If we are to invoke a moratorium on hate, should not it apply to everyone? Is not a person who plausibly decries "hatemongering" by others, but mongsers hate himself, even more despicable because of the inconsistent hypocrisy?

Should not the editorial page of a newspaper be in the vanguard of those who eschew hate—even including the cartoonists and columnists it employs? Should not newspapers, as well as ministers and politicians, practice what they preach?

Does not one who has a type-writer and a paper have a higher obligation for truth, honesty and consistency than one who screams from a mob in the street?

BURT L. TALCOTT,
U.S. Representative,
12th District of California,
Washington.

the throes of searching our souls, would it not be well for our media of news and communication to re-evaluate their own responsibilities and values? Too many extremists thrive only on publicity. Senator McCarthy never would have achieved almost total ruin of our national honor without the headline coverage of his activities. His reign was ended not by the condemnation of the Senate but by the contemptuous rejection of newsmen, shunning his press conferences.

George Lincoln Rockwell will revert to his native nothingness only when he is no longer treated as news. What supports the John Birch Society except publicity, giving it an importance its negative views could never earn? The South's know-nothings, with their shotguns and homemade bombs, rally at the trumpetings of their leaders, avidly reported in press and television. Surely there can be a difference between censored suppression of news and responsible handling of it?

If the Dallas Police Department had not weakly followed the pattern, giving the representatives of the news media such free access to their prisoner, the United States would not now have to shoulder the burden of national disgrace on top of tragedy.

President Johnson rightly and strongly has called for "action now" on the governmental scene. Let us, as citizens, begin now to act.

Childish

With a President who has just given his life in the line of duty and with several vital pieces of legislation pending, what right has Congress to insist on a 10-day vacation? Are they school children? J. C. PETER RICHARDSON.
Washington.

Appropriate

After reading Drew Pearson's columns of Dec. 2 and 3, wherein he first attempted to shake our confidence in the Secret Service and the FBI through faulty conclusions proceeding from spotty and individual instances of alleged individual misconduct; and then, in the following column, proceeded to brand those of us who would not agree to the Federal registration of all firearms, as members of "Hate Lobbies," I have concluded that your paper is quite correct in placing Mr. Pearson's column on the comic page.

ARTHUR J. WILLIAMS,
Burtonsville.

Question of Site

I think it entirely appropriate that the National Cultural Center should serve as a Memorial to our beloved John F. Kennedy. But it occurs to me that the proposed site is unsuitable in many ways. Why can't the Cultural Center be located on the large tract of

House Group Moving To Probe Birch Society

By DAVID S. BRODER
Star Staff Writer

Chairman Walter of the House Un-American Activities Committee said today he has ordered a preliminary investigation of the activities of the John Birch Society, the controversial anti-Communist organization.

The investigation was requested earlier today by Representative Hiestand, Republican of California, a member of the society. Mr. Hiestand said he was sure an honest inquiry would dispel charges that the society is a "dictatorial, Fascist" organization.

Mr. Walter said the purpose of the preliminary investigation was to determine whether his committee has jurisdiction. Noting that its legislative charter limits its inquiries to the diffusion of propaganda attacking the principle or form of the United States Government, Mr. Walter said, "I don't see from the press reports anything this society has done that would bring it within the purview of this committee."

Reuss Backs Inquiry

Representative Reuss, Democrat of Wisconsin, said today he also has requested an investigation as a result of numerous letters he said he received attacking Chief Justice Warren.

He reported that many of the letters were mimeographed and followed the same general line but usually did not identify the writers as members of the John Birch Society.

In a letter to Chairman Walter, Mr. Reuss said he believes the letters he has received originated with the society. He said propaganda organizations have



REPRESENTATIVE
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a right to express their opinions, but that in this instance there should be an investigation to determine "who is behind these activities, how they are financed and how they are carried on."

Mr. Hiestand became the first member of Congress to disclose his membership in the semi-secret society today when he was asked about a letter he sent a number of fellow Congressmen yesterday, urging them to make no attack on the society "until you know the facts."

Mr. Hiestand told an interviewer. See Hiestand, Page A-6.

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BAILEY

Continued From First Page
information about the other personnel who were aboard the plane.

French Assisting

"We have approached both French authorities and Royal Lao authorities in the expectation that their contacts with the Pathet Lao could be used successfully.

"The American Red Cross is also making an appeal on humanitarian grounds in the hope that the international Red Cross organization can be of major assistance."

Mr. White declined to name the sources of new information about Maj. Bailey.

The C-47, an unarmed World War II type transport plane assigned to the United States Embassy, was on a spotting mission over the Rebel area at the Lao government request when it was shot down.

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John Birch Society*

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agine—you can't just kick all the businessmen in the teeth. I wouldn't be surprised if some of the businessmen did talk to some of their friends." But he added that no one was trying to "destroy" the university a municipal tax supported school.

The Birch Society in Wichita prints many of its own members' pamphlets. Both Koch and Myers have written letters and brochures attacking Chief Justice Earl Warren and the Supreme Court.

Koch's brochure, "An American Business man Looks at Communism," charges that "the atmosphere in most of the large universities is definitely socialist, if not pro-Communist."

Publications Encouraged

In addition, the Society distributes printed material and films supplied by like-minded groups and encourages publications by its sympathizers. These include a 14-year-old who puts out a weekly mimeographed journal of conservative comment for his subscribers at the Minneha Junior High School.

Banowitz has been holding informal discussion meetings at his home with some two dozen high-school youngsters. Beside this, he said, "we've been running a kind of erratic little course at the Coleman Go."

On balance, the Birch Society's main force in Wichita appears to have resulted from its active dissemination of pamphlets and films. One

though the Legislature will give it to them.

Jack Robbins, an 18-year-old freshman at the University, needled Banowitz at a public meeting, lost his temper and walked out. Subsequently several conservatives called the manager of the grocery store where Robbins works part time and demanded he be fired as a pro-Communist.

The point of the story is that the grocer laughed off the phone calls, while several lawyers offered to represent Robbins in a libel action against his assailants.

Political science teacher Harder believes that the University's collision with the Birch Society may turn out to have done it more good than harm. He even invited Birch leader Love to address his class, an invitation Love accepted.

"Indirectly," Harder said, "the Birch Society has made many college students more aware of the market place of free ideas."

Viet-Nam Starts Dam

Reuters

SAIGON, South Viet-Nam, April 1—President Ngo dinh Diem today attended opening ceremonies for construction of a huge 49-million-dollar hydroelectric power station about 200 miles northeast of here.

A 6

Sunday, April 2, 1961

THE WASHINGTON POST

Birch Group in Wichita Draws All Walks of Life

Washington Post reporter Anderson, recently in Kansas, set out to look at how the controversial John Birch Society operates in a typical midwestern city. Here are his findings.

By J. W. Anderson
Staff Reporter

WICHITA, Kan., April 1

"I look at the record and see 800 million people added to communism since 1945. Is this a record of defeat or a record of victory?"

The speaker was Kenneth L. Myers, a lawyer, former Army officer, and now coordinator of the John Birch Society in Wichita.

Myers was addressing the monthly session of one of Wichita's seven chapters of the Birch Society. It was meeting in an auditorium at the headquarters of the Coleman Co., whose president, Sheldon Coleman, is one of the city's biggest industrialists and one of the Society's strongest supporters.

The Birch Society began to invite Birch Society to inform you and me and every American of the danger we face.

Myers took the floor to read the text of a Birch Society

answer to a recent story in Time magazine. He charged Time was following the pattern of attack first printed in a West-Coast Communist publication a few weeks before. The counterattack ended with the words: "Watch to see how many of your friends simply parrot the Commie line in this matter."

Next came a question period. A woman in the audience named a school board candidate who had opposed the showing of "Operation Abolition," a film put out by the House Un-American Activities Committee.

The Society has been showing this film widely, along with "Communism on the Map," produced by the National Education Program of Harding College, Searcy, Ark.

A man demanded to know whether it was true that the city school system refused to permit the film to be shown.

"What's their objection?" asked a woman. "They don't want to know the truth," replied a man.

At the top of the Society's structure in Wichita are several very wealthy industrialists.

work amendment to the State Constitution.

Now a Birch chapter leader, Banowetz recalled that he was "pretty active" in the right-to-work drive. He is chairman of the labor relations committee of the State Chamber of Commerce.

On the other side of the question, one of the Society's most forthright critics is George K. Lewis, assistant professor of economics at Wichita University. He was executive secretary of a group of clergymen and educators who fought the amendment, and he took a semester off from teaching last fall to set up the union-backed Kansas Council for Industrial Peace.

Published Pamphlet

Myers recently published a pamphlet attacking the "social gospel," by which he means the concern of churches with public affairs, social questions and "materialistic values."

But this dispute was red-hot in Wichita last summer, when the Birchers were only beginning to be heard.

He observed: "You can im-

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THE WASH. POST & TIMES HERALD
Page 16 Date April 2, 1961

Birch Group Asks Probe By Congress

BOSTON—April 1 (UPI)—Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, sent a telegram to the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee today asking for an official investigation of his organization.

Welch, in a telegram to Sen. James O. Eastland, chairman of the subcommittee, pledged that members would testify openly and "unlike our Communist enemies, none of our members will plead the Fifth Amendment."

In Washington, Eastland said he had received Welch's telegram and would submit his request for an investigation to a vote of the subcommittee at its next meeting. The Senator said that because of the Easter recess of Congress he did not know when the subcommittee would next meet but that he would call a meeting "as quickly as I can."

The Society is named for an American missionary killed by the Chinese Communist shortly after the end of World War II. Founders of the Society regard him as the first victim of the cold war.

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Birch Group Sees Gain From Debate Publicity

By DAVID S. BRODER
Star Staff Writer

John Birch Society leaders in the Washington area said yesterday the anti-Communist organization's membership has spurted as a result of the debate it has stirred in Congress and the press.

"I don't know of anybody who has dropped out because of the attacks," the society's field representative, Bryton Barron of 5814 Hanover avenue, Springfield, said. "On the contrary, many of those who are learning of our activities and purposes want to join."

Retired Army Col. J. R. Smith of 2205 Russell road, Alexandria, said yesterday he received 20 phone calls Friday after he was incorrectly identified in a newspaper story as the leader of the society's Alexandria chapter. Col. Smith, a member of the chapter but not its leader, said all 20 callers indicated sympathy to its purposes and half of them wanted to join immediately.

Mr. Barron said new applicants would be directed to the chapters near their homes "after screening, to see they're good, honest Americans. Obviously, we have to take precautions against infiltration."

Sought Yalta Records

The Springfield man is the full-time representative of the society in Virginia, the District and part of Maryland. A former State Department historian and analyst, Mr. Barron says he was forced out of the Government service late in 1955 because of his persistent efforts to obtain publication of the "complete record" of the Yalta Conference.

He wrote a book about his fight, called "Inside the State Department," and has lectured on the subject across the country.

Mr. Barron said there are currently 12 chapters of the society in the Washington area, with an average of 18 or 20 members per chapter. Chapters are kept small, he said, to insure that its members are "participants, and not just part of an audience."

In Belmont, Mass., Robert Welch, the society's founder, declined to say how many members the society has.

But he did say it is strongest in California, Texas, Arizona and Tennessee, and that it has no members at all in 15 States, including Pennsylvania, the Associated Press reported.

Membership in the society is secret, unless the individual chooses to divulge his affiliation himself. Mr. Barron, in an interview, said, "I'm probably the only person who knows all the Washington area members. Frequently, I see two people discussing a matter and I'm amused because I know they're both John Birchers, but they don't."

He said he astonished the audience at one recent gathering with the declaration that "you don't know it, but two-thirds of those present are members of the John Birch Society."

Justice Warren a Target

Both Mr. Barron and Col. Smith said the chapters meet about once a month in members' homes. There is no regular routine, but at most gatherings, members report on their individual activities during the past month. Developments in the anti-Communist fight on the local and national scene are discussed and consideration is given to objectives for the coming month suggested in the monthly bulletin from Mr. Welch.

In recent months, the local John Birch chapters, like those in other parts of the country, have put much emphasis on the campaign to impeach Chief Justice Warren, a man Mr. Barron says "has voted for the Communist point of view on 36 of 39 important cases—too

often for it to be an accident."

A second project of major interest to the local chapters, Mr. Barron said, has been support of the House Un-American Activities Committee. "Society members," he said, "have been very active in arranging numerous showings of the film 'Operation Abolition' in this area."

The movie describes the San Francisco hearings of the committee and the protest demonstrations connected with them.

Mr. Barron has found a personal forum for his views as a frequent guest on the weekly "Operation Washington" program produced for radio station WEAM in Arlington by retired Army Col. John Dunn of the Presidential Arms Hotel in Alexandria.

Notes Leftist Strength

Col. Dunn, who said he is not a member of the John Birch Society, has had Mr. Barron on the program four times in the past two months, discussing the effort to impeach Chief Justice Warren and subsequent attacks on the society.

A third major area of interest to the society and its members is the education system. Mr. Barron said that in some PTA organizations in Virginia, the left-wing element had gotten so strong that parents with conservative leanings wouldn't join. The society has urged them to join and make their views felt.

Mrs. Richard H. Nash of Route 4, Fairfax, who said she is a Fairfax chapter member of the society, was part of a seven-member county delegation that protested in 1958 to the Virginia State Board of Education about the "low intellectual content and high subversive content of what passes for education in the public schools of Fairfax County today."

Mrs. Nash said she had withdrawn her children from the public schools when the protest failed to achieve its objectives.

Col. Smith said his main personal project in the fight against communism was an effort to have the full historical record of the Teheran, Potsdam, and Cairo conferences during World War II published, and added, "I've been examining textbooks for a long time, personally, but that has nothing to do with the society."

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THE EVENING STAR

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More Light Is Thrown On John Birch's Death

LOS ANGELES, April 3 (AP)—More information on the circumstances surrounding the death of John Birch, for whom the right wing John Birch Society was named, became available today.

Army Capt. Birch was killed August 25, 1945, while on an Office of Strategic Services intelligence mission in Central China.

A missionary's son who spoke fluent Chinese, he was shot by the leader of a group of Communist Chinese.

In Billings, Mont., radio-TV executive, Joseph Sample—who served in the same OSS outfit as Capt. Birch—said, "There was no real object lesson in Birch's death and certainly no glory."

Circumstances Related

Mr. Sample, president of KOOK and KOOK-TV in Billings, related these circumstances:

"When World War II erupted, Birch was a missionary serving in China. His familiarity with the country led to his assignment as an intelligence officer with Gen. Chennault's Flying Tigers. He was later transferred to Detachment 202 of the Office of Strategic Services, Gen. 'Wild Bill' Donovan's supersecret intelligence agency, operating out of Kunming, China."

By the fall of 1945, Mr. Sample said, the local war lord

at Kunming was involved in a power struggle with Chiang Kai-shek's central government and had threatened to seize all American arms for private use.

"Against this background, Capt. Birch was assigned a mission in Central China. His was a small team, consisting of a staff sergeant, a radio operator, interpreter, and a code clerk. The mission should have been routine.

Met by Chinese Reds

"Upon his arrival at the designated area the team was met by a force of Chinese Reds. The Chinese were understandably disturbed by what seemed to them an unwarranted intrusion into their area and demanded an explanation.

"Capt. Birch chose to attempt to bluff his way out of a difficult situation. Harsh words led to insults and insults to arrogance. Finally, in a fit of rage, the Chinese Communist leader shot Birch. This was

August 25, 1945, 10 days after VJ-Day.

"The remainder of the team was released and returned to Kunming.

"While succeeding OSS teams were more careful in their dealings with the Chinese Communists thereafter, there was no real object lesson in Birch's death and certainly no glory," the broadcaster said.

Another's Recollection

In Los Angeles, William P. Weiss, Jr., a stockbroker and wartime OSS officer who made up the mission on which Capt. Birch was killed, said:

"Certainly John was just as much a hero as any other American soldier who died for his country."

Mr. Weiss, who lives in suburban Alhambra, added:

"He (Capt. Birch) was risking his life over and above the normal hazards required of our services during the war on a volunteer basis. . . . Unfortunately, he wasn't as skilled as

he should have been. But he certainly is just as much a hero, as he died for his country in trying conditions."

Not a Military Man

In Pasadena, Gustav J. Krause, a manufacturer, who was another wartime comrade of Capt. Birch—said:

"He brought about his own death. He didn't die the hero he was supposed to have died."

Added Mr. Krause:

"The Chinese Communists would fire at the drop of a hat. Because of Birch's background and his long life in China he threw his weight around. He was the type of fellow who was not a military man but was recruited because of his language ability."

"There were many men who gave their lives—thousands of Americans who were much greater heroes. But Birch operated on the fact that he knew the Chinese language and had lived in China."

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Reds Everywhere

For Welch and His Friends the End Justifies the Means

(Last of Three)
By BARBARA BUNDSCHU
United Press International

ROBERT WELCH, founder and leader of the John Birch Society, charges that the 1952 GOP presidential nomination was stolen from the late Sen. Robert A. Taft.

Mr. Welch's bitterness against former President Eisenhower apparently dates from that time.

In a startling "Letter to Khrushchev," published in his magazine *American Opinion* in 1958 and now available in pamphlet form, Mr. Welch told the Russian leader he knew that among the pro-communist activities of recent years had been "the snatching of the Republican nomination from Taft in 1952 by purchase, theft, secret deals and other tactics more foul than had ever before appeared in American politics."

Later in the same letter Mr. Welch wrote: "The president of one of America's largest banks took suitcases full of currency to the convention, to bribe delegates away from Taft; and he was rewarded, for thus providing such spontaneity, by a major ambassadorship."

FAVORITE

In an interview Mr. Welch named Sen. Taft and Gen. Douglas MacArthur as men he considered great Americans of recent years but declined to name his current favorites. His "Blue Book," however, leaves no doubt that his current choice is Arizona's Republican Sen. Barry Goldwater.

"I'd love to see him President of the United States, and maybe some day we shall," Mr. Welch said.

Sen. Goldwater said he wasn't aware of any Birch Society endorsement and wasn't in any case running for anything except the Senate. His term expires in 1964. Sen. Goldwater said he was familiar with the organization, that he had met several of its members during his travels and "they are very outstanding people."

Mr. Welch, in a "Blue Book" speech of December, 1958, called former Vice President Richard M. Nixon "one of the ablest, shrewdest, most disingenuous, and slipperiest politicians that ever showed up on the American scene."

But he said he would leave his remarks about Mr. Nixon out of the tape-recorded version of his speech because "he MAY be the best bet we have for the Republican standard bearer in 1960, who has any chance of getting the nomination. He would be far better than Nelson Rockefeller."

"I think Nixon could become a very patriotic anti-communist if we could create circumstances in which it would be smart politics to be one; whereas I think Nelson Rockefeller is definitely committed to trying to make the United States a part of one-world socialist government."

Mr. Welch's views on Presi-

dent Kennedy were indicated before his election. He did not mention Mr. Kennedy by name but his sentiments were made clear in a discussion about "amoral man."

"You will usually find him in church on Sunday morning, maybe even a Catholic Church," Mr. Welch said. "But as a member of the United States Senate, running for the presidency, and smart enough to know the strong communist support behind the scenes which he will have to get in order to have any chance of being nominated in 1960, such an amoral man can do a tremendous amount of ball-carrying on behalf of the communist aims here in the United States; and he can do an almost equal amount of damage to anti-communist morale in other parts of the world, by his well-publicized speeches against Chiang Kai-shek or in favor of the Algerian rebels."

"And any similarity of characters in this story to any living persons is not coincidental."

"I AM prepared to defend their right to express their views, as I would 'leftist' opinions," said Los Angeles attorney A. L. Wirin about the John Birch Society. "That its views, however, are acceptable to any portion of the American public is a sad commentary on the present American political scene."

Sen. Milton R. Young (R., N.D.), who has criticized the society on the Senate floor, said "what surprises me most is not the size but the number of prominent men who belong."

Twelve of the 26 men currently listed as members of the society's council are listed in *Who's Who in America*. They include two former presidents of the National Association of Manufacturers—William J. Grede and Cola G. Parker, both of Wisconsin—and a third former NAM president, Ernest G. Swigert of Portland, Ore., had previously been listed as a council member.

Other council members include Spruille Braden, former U. S. Ambassador; T. Coleman Andrews, the former Collector of Internal Revenue who ran for president on a platform calling for abolition of the income tax; Clarence Manion, former Dean of the Notre Dame Law School and head of the highly conservative *Manion Forum*; M. T. Phelps, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Arizona; Col. Laurance E. Bunker, former personal aide to Gen. Douglas MacArthur, and Lieut. Gen. Charles B. Stone III, USAF (ret.), former commander of the 14th Air Force in China. The late Alfred Kohlberg, New York importer best known for his letter-writing campaign in support of the so-called "China Lobby," was a charter member and is still listed as such.

DISAGREEMENT

Adolphe Menjou, the Hollywood actor, was at one time a member of the council. His wife said early in March that both she and her husband

were still members of the society. On March 21, Mrs. Menjou said her husband was in a hospital with a minor ailment but that he had withdrawn from the society, having found he disagreed with Mr. Welch, "on certain points." She declined to elaborate.

SOME answers to Mr. Wirin's question on the society's appeal were provided March 28 in two pages of letters printed by the Los Angeles Times following its editorial condemnation of the society.

Four writers said the Times articles preceding the editorial were prompting them to join the society. Two justified their membership in these words:

"It is the only organization that I know of that gives vital information on what is really going on and gives us suggestions for positive action"; and

"If our Government had made a real attempt to inform us, or to direct our attention to the need for this information, the John Birch Society would have been unnecessary."

Letter writers who praised the newspaper for its stand included former Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

One letter, signed only with initials and presumably written with a matrimonial "we," complimented the Times for explaining "probably much better than we might the reasons why we resigned after several months as members."

DISTURBED

The letter said the writers had become disturbed by cards distributed by the society last year to protest the planned summit meeting. Designed for mailing to President Eisenhower, they read: "If you go—don't come back!"

Mr. Nixon wrote the Times:

"It may at times seem unrealistic and naive to follow the rules of the game when our opponents are so unscrupulous and completely devoid of morality. But, in the end, refusing to resort to methods that are wrong not only is right but in the long run is the most effective way to combat an evil doctrine like communism."

"One of the most indelible lessons of human history is that those who adopt the doctrine that the end justifies the means inevitably find the means become the end."

Times Publisher Otis Chandler rejoiced on two counts at the heavy reaction to the newspaper's stand. The reader's expenditure for "stamps, phone calls and shoe leather (and aspirin)" he took as a happy omen that the economy is on the upswing.

Further, he wrote: "to stand up and say unequivocally what you believe in your heart is the right thing, regardless of immediate discomforts or neighborhood reactions, is a blessed virtue. We have done this on major issues of concern to all of us, and we respect and thank God you, the American public, have the guts to do the same. This in itself hurts the communist cause."

The *Los Angeles Times* said a "pro times" policy—125 letters, 33 phone calls, 682 new subscriptions. Against—163 pages of mail, 8 phone calls, 22 actual subscriber cancellations and 12 threats or mentions of cancellations.

In a minority decision by Justice Hugo Black, with concurrence of Chief Justice Warren who has been attacked by the society, is this sentence:

"Liberty, to be secure for any, must be secure for all—even the most miserable merchants of hatred and unpopular ideas."

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Birch Society Troubles The Attorney General

The John Birch Society, a conservative anti-Communist organization, has become "a matter of concern to the Attorney General," a Justice Department spokesman said today.

Asked if the department planned any action, the spokesman said "a growing number of inquiries which the Justice Department has received about the John Birch Society has made it a matter of concern to the Attorney General," the Associated Press reported. He declined to go beyond that brief statement.

There was no direct comment from Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy.

Members of both the House and Senate denounced the organization yesterday and called for investigations of its leaders. Several Senators have been attacked in letter-writing campaigns by society members.

Founder Welch Criticized

The most caustic criticism centered around the society's founder, Robert Welch, who is said to have called former President Eisenhower and others Communists.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover spoke out today against "reckless charges" and "vigilante action" in a signed editorial in the FBI law enforcement bulletin.

Mr. Hoover did not mention the John Birch Society, and FBI spokesmen declined comment on whether the society was an intended target. Mr. Hoover wrote: "The job of curtailing and containing communism is one for legally constituted authorities with the steadfast cooperation of every loyal citizen. 'This is neither the time for inaction nor vigilante action.'"

"Attributing every adversity to communism is not only irrational, but contributes to hysteria and fosters groundless fears. . . ."

Seeks 100,000 Members

Meanwhile, Representative Hiestand, Republican of California, who has acknowledged being a member of the society, told a news conference the organization is growing rapidly and hopes to have 100,000 members by the end of the year.

He said he belonged to what he called "the home chapter," headed by Mr. Welch and including members all over the country.

Mr. Hiestand said "I am told" there are several chapters in the Washington area but that he is not affiliated with any of them.

Asked if he was founder of the society, Mr. Hiestand smiled and said, "No, you flatter me."

"Unfortunately," he added, "I haven't attended a meeting in a year and a half."

But he said he has kept in touch by writing and by telephoning. He said he talked with Mr. Welch by telephone yesterday.

Another Congress Member

Mr. Hiestand said he knew of one other member of Congress who is a member of the society.

He said "I choose to stay" in the society because it is a "dedicated anti-Communist group."

He said the main objective of the organization was fighting communism and defending the free enterprise system.

Mr. Hiestand said he was unable to give any precise estimate on the communist menace in this country, but said it was "much more widespread and powerful than generally believed."

Mr. Hiestand strongly defended the society against charges by some critics that it is Fascist. He said members are not required to do anything against their conscience and

may resign whenever they want to.

Senator Dodd, Democrat of Connecticut, told a reporter he would ask the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee to investigate the society and its leaders. Senator Dodd joined Senator Kuchel, Republican of California, in denouncing the organization yesterday in the Senate.

Eisenhower Called Red

Senator Kuchel said Mr. Welch has called Mr. Eisenhower a card-carrying Communist and that this is "a fantastic and incredible libel."

"Good God," Senator Kuchel said, "should the American people permit this kind of spleen to be poured on a man who has dedicated his whole life to freedom?" He said Chief Justice Warren was "another great American" the society has tried to besmirch.

Senator Kuchel, who has been attacked by the society himself, said Mr. Welch should be called before a Senate committee and asked the basis for "these miserable charges." The committee, he said, should "make him apologize, not alone to Mr. Eisenhower and Mr. Warren, but to the people of this country."

Senator Dodd said Mr. Welch's charges against Mr. Eisenhower, Mr. Warren, former President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman and others are "an affront to both decency and intelligence."

Charge Discussed

In Boston, Col. Lawrence Bunker, a director of the Birch Society, was asked about the Welch charge against Mr. Eisenhower in a CBS radio interview.

Col. Bunker, a Boston lawyer and one time aide to Gen. Douglas MacArthur, said, "The title of the letter, which has been widely quoted about Dwight D. Eisenhower, was written by Mr. Welch long before the society was organized. It was circulated confidentially to a very limited number of people."

"It was never intended for publication and has not become a part of the society's documents or publications, as far as I know."

Col. Bunker also was asked about the demand for impeachment of Chief Justice Warren.

Chief Justice Assailed

He replied:

"That is a well documented statement which has occupied a good deal of space in a number of the club's bulletins, or the society's bulletins, and I would not want to go into any particular detail other than to

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say that it seems to be thoroughly substantiated as a proposition, and certainly designed to bring to the notice of the American people, very dramatically, the degree to which the Supreme Court under Chief Justice Warren's leadership has stepped out of its role as a purely judicial organization or section of the Government, and has become, to a large extent, legislative as well, which is certainly a violation of the basic principles of the Constitution."

Membership May Be 144, or 288 . . .

The Birch Society Here Is Difficult to Pin Down

Last week The Washington Daily News ran three articles describing the actions and ambitions of a super-conservative organization called the John Birch Society. The group is the subject of much concern among members of Congress and the Justice Department has indicated it is interested in its activities. The Society has "chapters" in the Washington area. Today we take a look at them.

(See Lyle Wilson's column on Page 19.)

By TOM KELLY

Robert Welch, the persuasive autocrat of the John Birch Society, is fond of analogies — the country, he says, is a man and communism is a cancer.

To borrow the device, we'll say Mr. Welch's society is a tree — an odd, fog-shrouded tree, fed by Mr. Welch's own tap root and designed to bear strange fruit.

The Washington Birch branch is just a bud.

It apparently has between 144 and 288 members divided into some 12 "chapters." We say apparently because the rolls are secret, even from the members. Each chapter is isolated from the others and the only link is a mild-mannered, former Rhodes Scholar named Bryton Barron.

Mr. Barron, who spent 26 years in the State Department and then wrote a disillusioned book about it, is the Birch representative in Washington and one of the few visible members.

MISTY

The estimate of area membership is vague because Mr. Barron is vague when asked:

How many chapters?

"Say a dozen," Mr. Barron replies.

How many members in a chapter?

"It varies."

Shall we say between 10 and 20?

"No. Say between 12 and 24."

Some of the members in Northern Virginia are "big businessmen," he says, but most in the area are "ordinary people."

It is not an imposing picture, but then the remarkable thing about the society is not its size but its monolithic structure and its singular beliefs.

In the structure of the chapters, for example, there is a marked similarity to communist cells but THIS analogy is not a Welch favorite.

Mr. Barron insists that the communists themselves are the ones who started making that comparison and that communist tools have been copying it faithfully.

He prefers to say simply that the structure of the Birch Society is "unique."

ONE WAY STREET

No chapter, or member, in-

tiates action. Each month Mr. Welch sends each chapter an "agenda" of activities. Either they follow the agenda or they do nothing.

Mr. Barron insists that this represents "independence" for, he points out, the members are free to quit or even to quibble.

The Founder — as Mr. Welch is formally known — has somewhat broader freedoms. He can kick anyone out for quibbling or for anything else.

What are the tasks assigned the members?

THE ACTION

According to Mr. Welch's "Blue Book" — which serves as the Mein Kampf of the society — the members are supposed to write to congressmen and newspapers, join temporary "raids" for purposes of specific agitation, heckle "leftist" speakers, and expose communists and communist tools.

The last task is the biggest, since by Mr. Welch's definitions anyone less conservative than the late Queen Victoria is suspect. In the Welch view the communists have more tools than the Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Barron downplays some of Mr. Welch's more radical statements — such as his much quoted opinion that President Eisenhower is a communist.

He says these are Mr. Welch's "personal" opinions and he says Mr. Welch has been frequently and maliciously quoted "out of context." In the "Blue Book," however, Mr. Welch says similar things, the slightly more guarded, that are unquestionably in the context of the whole speech.

Mr. Barron says simply "I haven't been particularly interested in these passages."

THE POSE

The desire to make Mr. Welch and his society seem moderate is reflected in letters a couple of Birchmen wrote to a local newspaper last week criticizing an article on 'The Founder.' They also illustrate some fairly tricky debating techniques.

Mr. Barron wrote one letter; Col. J. R. Smith U.S.A. (ret.) wrote the other.

Mr. Barron's letter said in part that the reporter who wrote the critical article in question "is singularly uninformed . . . as witness the following: ' . . . not a great deal is known here about the society. It has not been particularly active in the Washington area altho it apparently has at least one chapter here.' Just to set the record straight, permit me to state that there are several chapters in the



Mr. Barron is the Society representative in Washington.

Washington area — and they are definitely active.

Far from being "singularly uninformed," the reporter seems to have said substantially the same thing as Mr. Barron.

SEMANTICS

The reporter says "at least one," Mr. Barron — who is the one man who can set the record straight if he chooses, says with usual vagueness that there are "several."

His further contention that they are "definitely active" seems to be mere rhetoric. When this reporter asked Mr. Barron for a list of local actions during the last year, Mr. Barron said, not very responsively, that the local chapters were still "very young."

Col. Smith's letter shows a similar willingness to deny the obvious. He complains, indignantly, that in the article in question "The Blue Book" is quoted as showing Mr.

Welch "rules" the society. This is simply a falsehood.

Now the "Blue Book" is the society's own book, written by Mr. Welch. And it says that the John Birch Society "will operate under completely authoritative control at all levels." And it also says "The men who join . . . are going to be doing so primarily because they believe in me (Mr. Welch) and what I am doing and are willing to accept my leadership anyway. And we are going to use that loyalty . . . to the fullest possible advantage . . . Whenever and wherever . . . that loyalty ceases to be sufficient to keep some fragment in line, we are not going to be in the position of having the society's work weakened by raging debates. We are not going to have factions developing on the two-sides-to-every question theme. Those members who cease to feel the necessary degree of loyalty can either resign or will be put out . . ."

If this doesn't mean that Mr. Welch "rules" the society, what does it mean?

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N.A.M. leaders have been reported to be members of the society.

Representative Rousselle is The Star in a telephone view from San Marino as he is a member of a club in the Los Angeles society; the

His membership was reported by Representative Hie, another California Republican.

in a news conference yesterday. Mr. Hiestand, also a member of the society and charges that it was fascist.

"That's true," Mr. Rousselle said. "I am a member. I joined last fall."

No Cloak of Secrecy

He said he joined the society because chapters he addressed in California were "fine groups." They were made up of "very reasonable people" and were "not we to any cloak of dark secrecy," Mr. Rousselle said here.

communism."

He said his attack on Mr. Eisenhower was contained in a "private, confidential letter" written in 1955, three years before the founding of the society. The "letter" was published as a book, and circulated on a limited basis. Mr. Welch said that most of the men who helped him set up the society had read the letter and at the founding it "was discussed and specifically disavowed by the group as being no part of the material of belief of the John Birch Society in any way."

Evidence Indicated

In the book, entitled "The Politician," the retired candy manufacturer said, "But my firm belief that Dwight Eisenhower is a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy is based on an accumulation of detailed evidence so extensive and so palpable that it seems to me to put this conviction beyond any reasonable doubt."

The book also said: "In my opinion, the chances are very strong that Milton Eisenhower is actually Dwight Eisenhower's superior boss within the Communist Party."

In his statement last night, Mr. Welch specifically denied that he had called the former President a "card-carrying Communist," responding to a question by a reporter. He also said that in his book he had made it clear that "I had no quarrel with anybody who wished to attribute his (President Eisenhower's) actions simply to political opportunism."

Further Developments

The Welch statement came amidst these other developments in the swirling John Birch controversy:

1. Representative Rousselle, Republican of California, confirmed that he is a member of the society and defended it as a group of "very reasonable people." He said he had no in-

missioner of Internal Revenue in the Eisenhower administration and one of the 12 organizers of the John Birch Society, said that he did not agree with Mr. Welch's views on Mr. Eisenhower.

3. In New York, the American Civil Liberties Union defended the right of the society to express its opinions "regardless of how extreme and distorted" they may be.

4. Representative Bell, Republican of California, former chairman of the California G. O. P. Central Committee, said the society and similar organizations increase the difficulty of advancing conservative thought and resisting communism.

5. Bryton Barron of Springfield, Va., who is active in John Birch affairs in the Washington area, said that "one of the items on the current agenda of the society is the impeachment of (Chief Justice) Warren." The society has been reported to be the source of a mail campaign urging members of Congress to sponsor impeachment.

See BIRCH, Page A-3

Bright, Breezy To Shoo Rain

Bright but breezy weather was predicted for the Easter holiday following rain earlier today.

Forecasters said there is some possibility of thunder showers before mid-day today with clearing this afternoon and remaining windy.

It will be nippy weather for Easter sunrise services tomorrow morning, and will remain cool and mostly sunny for the remainder of the day. The low tonight will be about 38 degrees and the high tomorrow will hit 52.

Park police said they planned additional patrols for the Tidal Basin area this week end where heavy crowds are expected to see Cherry Blossoms.

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entrance to the Pentagon. A-2.)—Star Staff Photo

BIRCH Welch On Ei

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6. The National Association of Manufacturers disclosed that it adopted a resolution last month which indirectly rebuked the society. Several N.A.M. leaders have been reported to be members of the society.

Representative Rousselot is The Star in a telephone view from San Marino, says he is a member of a group in the Los Angeles society. His membership was revealed by Representative Hiestand in a news conference yesterday. Mr. Hiestand, also a member of the society and a member of the Los Angeles society, defended the society and denied charges that it was fascist. "That's true," Mr. Rousselot said. "I am a member. I joined last fall."

No Cloak of Secrecy

He said he joined the society because chapters he addressed in California were "fine study groups." They were made up, he said, of "very reasonable people" and were "not wearing any cloak of dark secrecy." Mr. Rousselot said he had not

Birch Head Separates His Views and Society's

Says His Comments on Eisenhower
Were Disavowed by Group's Founders

Robert Welch, founder of the controversial John Birch Society, declared last night that his organization should not be saddled with his personal statement that President Eisenhower was "a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy."

Mr. Welch, in a statement issued in Belmont, Mass., his home and John Birch headquarters, said the society is a "group of splendid men and women of good character" whose "only crime" is fighting communism.

He said his attack on Mr. Eisenhower was contained in a "private, confidential letter" written in 1955, three years before the founding of the society. The "letter" was published as a book, and circulated on a limited basis. Mr. Welch said that most of the men who helped him set up the society had read the letter and at the founding it "was discussed and specifically disavowed by the group as being no part of the material of belief of the John Birch Society in any way."

Evidence Indicated

In the book, entitled "The Politician," the retired candy manufacturer said: "But my firm belief that Dwight Eisenhower is a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy is based on an accumulation of detailed evidence so extensive and so palpable that it seems to me to put this conviction beyond any reasonable doubt."

The book also said: "In my opinion, the chances are very strong that Milton Eisenhower is actually Dwight Eisenhower's superior boss within the Communist Party."

In his statement last night, Mr. Welch specifically denied that he had called the former President a "card-carrying Communist," responding to a question by a reporter. He also said that in his book he had made it clear that "I had no quarrel with anybody who wished to attribute his (President Eisenhower's) actions simply to political opportunism."

Further Developments

The Welch statement came amidst these other developments in the swirling John Birch controversy:

1. Representative Rousselot, Republican of California, confirmed that he is a member of the society and defended it as a group of "very reasonable people." He said he had no in-

tention of giving up his membership.

2. T. Coleman Andrews, commissioner of Internal Revenue in the Eisenhower administration and one of the 12 organizers of the John Birch Society, said that he did not agree with Mr. Welch's views on Mr. Eisenhower.

3. In New York, the American Civil Liberties Union defended the right of the society to express its opinions "regardless of how extreme and distorted" they may be.

4. Representative Bell, Republican of California, former chairman of the California G. O. P. Central Committee, said the society and similar organizations increase the difficulty of advancing conservative thought and resisting communism.

5. Bryton Barron of Springfield, Va., who is active in John Birch affairs in the Washington area, said that "one of the items on the current agenda of the society is the impeachment of (Chief Justice) Warren." The society has been reported to be the source of a mail campaign urging members of Congress to sponsor impeachment.

See BIRCH, Page A-3

Bright, Breezy To Shoo Rain

Bright but breezy weather was predicted for the Easter holiday following rain earlier today.

Forecasters said there is some possibility of thunder showers before mid-day today with clearing this afternoon and remaining windy.

It will be nippy weather for Easter sunrise services tomorrow morning, and will remain cool and mostly sunny for the remainder of the day. The low tonight will be about 38 degrees and the high tomorrow will hit 52.

Park police said they planned additional patrols for the Tidal Basin area this week end where heavy crowds are expected to see Cherry Blossoms



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BIRCH

Welch Explains His Views On Eisenhower Being a Red

Continued From First Page
proceedings against the Chief
Justice.

6. The National Association of Manufacturers disclosed that it adopted a resolution last September which indirectly rebuked the society. Several N.A.M. leaders have been reported to be members of the society.

Representative Rousselot told The Star in a telephone interview from San Marino, that he is a member of a chapter in the Los Angeles society.

His membership was revealed by Representative Hiestand, another California Republican, in a news conference yesterday. Mr. Hiestand, also a member, defended the society and denied charges that it was fascist.

"That's true," Mr. Rousselot said. "I am a member. I joined last fall."

No Cloak of Secrecy

He said he joined the society because chapters he addressed in California were "fine study groups." They were made up, he said, of "very reasonable people" and were "not wearing any cloak of dark secrecy."

Mr. Rousselot said he had no intention of giving up his membership because the society has become the center of controversy.

Both Mr. Hiestand and Mr. Rousselot said they did not share the founder's views about Mr. Eisenhower.

Mr. Rousselot, serving his first term in Congress, said a "good friend" asked him to join after he spoke to several of the chapters. He said his chapter included just small people—a taxi driver and a hotel doorman were among them, he added—who were concerned about Communist infiltration.

Mr. Rousselot said he could not speak for all but that members of the society he knows have been "responsibly and thoughtfully" studying the Communist menace. He added that he had found their work well documented.

Favors Investigation

He said he favored an investigation of the society. "I think it is important since this has been publicized that it should be aired out," he added. "Let's find out about it."

Mr. Rousselot said he had received two anonymous telephone calls after his arrival home, Thursday night, asking if he was a member of the society. When he acknowledged he was, the Representative said, the callers told him they would never support him again and the society would be made an



Robert H. W. Welch, Jr., head of the controversial John Birch Society, gestures as he talks to reporters in his Belmont (Mass.) office yesterday.
—AP Wirephoto.

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HEADLINE PERSONALITY

He'll Fight Socialism Anywhere, Welch Says

BELMONT, Mass., April 1 (AP).—The founder of the John Birch Society—the ultra-rightist organization under fire from many quarters—works in a paneled first floor office of a modern colonial red brick building near the business center of this prosperous Boston suburb.

Robert Welch, 61, balding and gray haired, retired from a nationally known candy manufacturing business in 1957 to devote his full time to fighting communism, and founded the society as the implement.

His office is big, maybe 18 by 30 feet, with wall-to-wall carpeting. His desk is at one end with two side chairs. At the other is a leather divan. One wall is mostly occupied by floor-to-ceiling bookshelves, well filled, with anti-Communist, political and economics titles predominant.

The opposite wall is windowed

Mr. Welch, born in Chowan County, North Carolina, was educated at the University of North Carolina, went to the United States Naval Academy for two years, and Harvard Law School for two years. His own biography says he spent 40 years in "the school of hard knocks."

In one of his rare interviews, he insisted his only aim in fostering the Birch Society is to fight communism, but he answers many questions on the organization by sending for one

FULL NAME—Robert H. W. Welch, Jr.
CLAIM TO FAME—Founder of the John Birch Society.
HOME—Belmont, Mass.
BIRTHDAY—1899.
EDUCATION—University of North Carolina, Naval Academy (two years), Harvard Law School.
JOBS—Former candy manufacturer; member of board of the National Association of Manufacturers; regional vice president, NAM; unsuccessful candidate for lieutenant governor of Massachusetts.
FAMILY—Married, two sons.

tins, and a copy of the "Blue Book," a 182-page, loose leaf book-sized bible of the society, in return for their dues. These are \$1,000 for a life membership; \$24 a year for men and \$12 a year for women.

Denies Secrecy

Mr. Welch hotly denies that the society is a secret one, as some of his critics have charged.

But he won't disclose the members except for

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Mr. Rousselot said he thought there should be no opportunity for an organization to exist that used "incorrect" methods. But he said he had checked and was unable to find any supporting evidence on charges that the society "has been harassing people."

Recalled by Andrews

Mr. Andrews, commenting to the Associated Press in Richmond, said of Mr. Welch's attack on Mr. Eisenhower:

"I don't remember that exact passage, but I do remember a part of the book about the effects of some of the Eisenhower actions. Welch said that the Eisenhower administration was overreacting to the Russian threat."

At this meeting Dr. John C. Cook of the Institute for Social Studies said that the society had been in space for a long time.

Other projects include controlled detonation of nuclear bombs in space for propulsion.

Other Projects

energy conversion. The thousands of tons now the weight of such a system from the problem—reduction of the quite serious engineering and, however, admitted as an electrical engine. Gen. O. S. or as working fluid in an air might be used as an oxidant. The collected earth's high atmosphere as another was use of the course of the rocket satellite. has significantly altered the from the sun. This pressure



Robert H. W. Welch, jr., head of the controversial John Birch Society, gestures as he talks to reporters in his Belmont (Mass.) office yesterday. —AP Wirephoto.

HEADLINE PERSONALITY

He'll Fight Socialism Anywhere, Welch Says

BELMONT, Mass., April 1 (AP)—The founder of the John Birch Society—the ultra-rightist organization under fire from many quarters—works in a paneled first floor office of a modern colonial red brick building near the business center of this prosperous Boston suburb.

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His office is big, maybe 18 by 30 feet, with wall-to-wall carpeting. His desk is at one end with two side chairs. At the other is a leather divan.

One wall is mostly occupied by floor-to-ceiling bookshelves, well filled with anti-Communist, political and economics titles predominant.

The opposite wall is windowed—overlooking the loading platform of the Belmont post office, where the society has become the biggest single patron.

He'll Talk Anywhere

He's voluble, he says himself he "will climb on a soapbox to argue against the evils of socialism whenever anybody will listen."

courageously and forthrightly has guided the foreign and domestic policies of the United States in the direction in which in his judgment the best interests of this country lie.

This lake is at an altitude of 14,000 feet and has no outlet. It is fed by springs. The Laguna Colorado is about four miles in both length and breadth. The water near the shore is very shallow.

Reds Remake Maps Fairfax County

minute organizations. numbers of infinitesimally bright pink color, due to vast

Waters which he took for an- alysis a few years ago has a scene than anything real.

The flaming red lake, he says, looks more like a painted scene than anything real.

Club. The strange land is described by William E. Rutherford, former chief engineer of the Chile Exploration Co.

in the Explorer's Journal, or of the Chile Exploration Co.

line of Sud Lipiz, in the corner where Bolivia, Argentina and Chile meet.

Mr. Welch, born in Chowan County, North Carolina, was educated at the University of North Carolina, went to the United States Naval Academy for two years, and Harvard Law School for two years. His own biography says he spent 40 years in "the school of hard knocks."

In one of his rare interviews, he insisted his only aim in fostering the Birch Society is to fight communism, but he answers many questions on the organization by sending for one or another of the society's numerous bulletins, pamphlets, or other publications, which, he says give the answers in the printed word—his own.

His regular publications are monthly bulletins sent to society members, and the monthly "American Opinion"—subscription \$5 a year.

The members get the bullet-

ins, and a copy of the "Blue Book," a 182-page, loose leaf book-sized bible of the society, in return for their dues. These are \$1,000 for a life membership; \$24 a year for men and \$12 a year for women.

Denies Secrecy Mr. Welch hotly denies that the society is a secret one, as some of his critics have charged.

But he won't disclose the names of members, except for a published list of "council" members, who presumably act as an advisory board.

Nor will he say how many members there are—except that the society has 25 "chapters" in Massachusetts, and is "strongest in California, Texas, Arizona and Tennessee."

How big is a chapter? "We try to keep them to 10 to 20 members, but sometimes they are bigger. We had one in Connecticut that grew to 44 before we got them to split. They have five there now," he said. He didn't identify the community.

Mr. Welch said the society doesn't want any publicity. But one of his publications urges members to use every means possible to get the society's cause across.

Mr. Welch was a member of the board of directors of the National Association of Manufacturers for seven years, and also was a regional vice president of the NAM for three years. He has been active in peace and community affairs as well. He served on the Belmont

Union of Committee, and in 1950 was unsuccessful candidate for lieutenant governor of Massachusetts as a Republican.

He is married and has two children.

He is a Christian Nationalist and I submit that perhaps a moment of silent prayer in the presence of the Civil War and the American Revolution would be less expensive and far more honorable.

FULL NAME—Robert H. W.

Welch, jr.

CLAIM TO FAME—Founder of the John Birch Society.

HOME—Belmont, Mass.

BIRTHDAY—1899.

EDUCATION—University of North Carolina, Naval Academy (two years), Harvard Law School.

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Birch Society Probe Decision Due Soon

By the Associated Press

The Senate Internal Security Subcommittee will meet April 12 to decide whether it will investigate the John Birch Society.

Both critics and supporters of the right-wing group have urged a congressional probe to get the facts on its aims, activities and membership.

In other developments yesterday, the Army made public extracts from the service record of Capt. John M. Birch.

and Senator Goldwater, Republican of Arizona, said that some months ago he turned down an offer to become a member of the society's council.

Robert Welch, the society's

founder, has called Capt. Birch "the first casualty in the third world war between the Communists and the ever-shrinking free world."

Capt. Birch was a Baptist missionary to China before World War II. He was commissioned in the Army Air Corps after the fighting began. Army records show Capt. Birch twice was decorated for behind-the-lines intelligence work in China during the war against Japan.

However, the record made public yesterday does not say

how Capt. Birch was killed, or mention the Communists. It does not even say where he died.

His mother, Mrs. George S. Birch of Macon, Ga., says the first official report was that he had been killed by stray bullets.

Later, however, she was notified her son had been slain by the Chinese Communists. He was killed 10 days after the war ended.

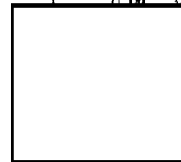
Senator Goldwater, a conservative leader, said he never had joined the Birch Society

and refused to become a member of its council.

The Arizona Senator told a news conference last week that while he disagreed with many of the John Birch Society's theories he was impressed by the type of people in it.

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THE WASH. POST & TIMES HERALD
Page A-17 Date 4/17/61

These Days

The John Birch Society

By George E. Sokolsky

I THINK that I wrote the first article (Jan. 14) calling attention to the John Birch Society. Since then there has been a plethora of discussion, some competent, some absurd. Let us analyze the position with some objectivity.

Any American citizen is free to organize an association or express his ideas and to advocate his purposes. This is guaranteed in the Constitution. However, no organization may be established to commit crime like the Mafia or to sell narcotics or overthrow the Government of the United States by force and violence.

No accusations have been made against the John Birch Society which brings it within these categories. The worst crime this Society is accused of having committed is that it is to the right of Louis XIV. But is it a crime to ask whether these days bring more contentment than those?

I disagree with the John Birch Society's campaign to impeach the Chief Justice, Earl Warren. I wrote that it is both strategically and tactically unsound. I received a whole of a mail, couched in identical language, pitying me for being so wrong.

THERE IS no law which forbids citizens to organize to have an official impeached by due process of the law. It



Sokolsky

is possible to believe that those citizens are incorrect in their views and to say so. But neither side to the controversy commits a crime by being controversial. As a matter of fact, this country would be improved if more of us were controversial. We are not suffering from objecting too much; we are suffering from too much conformity.

Robert Welch Jr., who is the founder of the John Birch Society, is opposed to communism and believes that it is sound to fight fire with fire. Most fire departments prefer to fight fire with water or with chemicals. Welch organized as he thinks the Communists organize, namely by arranging for small cells, often unknown to each other. Communists do not organize that way at all. It is the Soviet espionage organizations that are organized that way.

No one can question Welch's sincerity or his desire to serve his country. How deeply he has studied Hegel, Darwin, Marx, Engels, Lenin, Bukharin, Bernstein, and the history of the 19th century, I do not know. He jumps at conclusions often based on misapplication of terms. But none of this is as criminal as the treason of the Communists and many of their fellow travelers. Bob Welch may not understand all the deviations and revisions of the Social Democratic movement or the synthesis that Marx produced of Darwin, Huxley, Hegel, Feuerbach and Bakunin.

IT IS NOT sound to believe that everyone who disagrees, in 1961, after two world wars and a universal depression, with the economics of Mark Hanna, is a Communist.

Nevertheless, a man has the right, in this country, to organize an association which recognizes the status quo ante bellum as preferable, just as an architect may organize a society to prefer Michelangelo to Lloyd Wright.

Robert Welch Jr. has requested a public hearing from a congressional committee. The risk is that his associates may sound like crackpots; the benefit is that they will be able to state their case. Such a committee would ask Robert Welch if he really believes that ex-President Eisenhower is a Communist. Obviously, the former President is not a Communist; he is a golfer. Nor can anyone say that Jack Kennedy is a Communist; he is a Roman Catholic, and a member of the Communist Party must be an atheist.

IT IS EASY to straighten out many of these things by a definition of terms. A Communist is a person who accepts a clearly stated dogmatic set of sociological postulates. Whoever does not accept these postulates can not be a Communist, no matter how hard he tries or how violently he is accused.

Neither ex-President Eisenhower nor Chief Justice Earl Warren fits the specifications.

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"They're ALL Communists Except Thee and Me —"



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The Best Cure For the Birchites

By Marquis Childs

THIS REPORTER recently met an official of the West German government who remarked that he had been reading reports of America's radical right and the activities of the John Birch Society. He commented: "This seems to me cause for concern. It was in somewhat the same manner that national socialism came into being in my country."

It is not necessary to accept this analogy to be concerned, as are many responsible citizens, with what is almost a vigilante spirit growing in certain parts of the country. This is associated with the widespread showing of the film, *Operation Abolition*, made from film clips subpoenaed by the House Un-American Activities Committee from private television companies and turned over to another private firm for commercial sale.

The film glorifies the committee and creates the impression that anyone who questions its findings is either Communist, pro-Communist or, at best, a dupe of communism. It is based on what many critics have said is a distorted version of the riotous demonstrations touched off by hearings held in San Francisco last year by an Un-American Activities subcommittee. The National Council of Churches has prepared a 15,000-word report on the film, called "Some Facts and Some Comments," which, as approved by the Council's general board, is available at its New York headquarters.

RECENTLY WHEN Roger Kent, Democratic state chairman for California was in Washington he conferred with Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara on the effect the film is having in California in inflaming the political climate. The Defense Department, prior to Jan. 20, had bought 60 copies of the film at \$100 each and encouraged its widespread showing to trainees and others.

McNamara told Kent that he had previously directed that *Operation Abolition* be withdrawn, since the department was making its own training film on the relationship between communism and youth not only in the United States but around the world. Attorney General Kennedy told Kent that he was also concerned about the ultra-rightist groups.

In one small town in Indiana, according to ~~those~~ checking its propaganda impact, the film was shown ~~20~~ times, each time with a rousing patriotic introduction. After one showing the head of the Chamber of Commerce, regarded as a stable and substantial citizen, got up and said in a voice choked with emotion: "They should have turned machine guns on those student demonstrators instead of fire hoses."

Operation Abolition is reported to have been shown more than 270 times in Tulsa, Okla. It has been shown in all the public schools in Los Angeles and Phoenix, Ariz. In some instances industrialists are subsidizing its showing and in one instance paid for the services of Fulton (Buddy) Lewis III to speak in connection with the film. Lewis, who as a Committee employe narrated the film, resigned as a staff member in January to lecture at colleges.

WHAT GIVES this a new immediacy is that Rep. Henry Reuss of Wisconsin and others are now calling on the Committee to investigate the John Birch Society for its tactics of infiltration and what one of the most conservative newspapers in the country has suggested is downright subversion. Yet in some areas the Birch Society is itself a promoter of *Operation Abolition*.

But there is real doubt, quite apart from the committee's objectivity, about both the value and the propriety of such an investigation. It would be investigating men and women for holding, professing and advocating extreme right-wing views, just as the Committee has in many instances investigated individuals for holding, professing and advocating extreme left-wing views.

In the latter instances their connection with a Communist conspiracy, which properly should be investigated by the FBI, was tenuous to nonexistent.

Laws and investigations are no guarantee of America's heritage of freedom. As champions of that heritage have said over the years, if it does not exist in understanding and dedication in the minds and the hearts of the people then it will be destroyed.

That is the lesson of William Shirer's powerful, best-selling *The Rise and the Fall of the Third Reich*. Comfortable Germans clung to the belief that Hitler's end — the extermination of communism — justified his means. And as the means got more and more brutal and barbarous they simply closed their eyes and a great civilized nation wrote its own terrible epitaph.

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APRIL 8, 1961
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Rousselot Hits Robert Kennedy On Birch Society

By the Associated Press

Representative Rousselot, Republican of California, says the John Birch Society contributes to the fight against communism by keeping its members and the public informed about the Communist conspiracy.

Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy told a news conference Thursday he thought the militantly conservative group was "ridiculous and I don't think that anyone should really pay too much attention to them." He added:

"I think they make no contribution . . . to the fight against communism here in the United States, and in fact I think . . . they are a hindrance."

Mr. Rousselot, who is a member of the society, said yesterday the comment by the Attorney General was "very unfortunate and irresponsible."

He said the John Birch Society, by informing citizens about the Communist threat, was responding to an appeal by FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, who said Americans needed to know that "we are at war with the Communists."

Robert Welch of Belmont, Mass., founder of the group, has accused former President Eisenhower and Chief Justice Warren of serving the ends of communism.

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Running Wild Again!

A Fearful Crew, The Birch Society

From the Pine Bluff (Ark.)

Commercial

WE HAVE been trying to work up a proper degree of concern and indignation about the John Birch Society, and have not so far made the grade.

The Society may well be the menace it is being painted to be. We remember a fellow who laughed at Joe McCarthy.

But the Republic has stood off the Soviet Union since 1945 and, with considerable help, whipped two sets of Fascists plus Mussolini's Legions more or less simultaneously in the period immediately preceding.

It lived through the Know-Nothings, the Klan, the Silver Shirts and the aforementioned McCarthy, and will, from all indications, also survive the Citizens Councils.

We are experienced, as a nation, with crackpots and authoritarians. If the John Birch Society is not about the nearest to impotent of the lot we are, as a newspaper, a good way wide of the mark.

It has been alleged that the John Birch Society is a hate group, hence dangerous. Certainly it is made up of people who know how to hate, and who enjoy the sport. But they are also, and more profoundly, people shaken to their being by fear.



MINNEAPOLIS STAR

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WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS
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Birch Man Calls Rep. Reuss Pro-Soviet

Rep. Henry S. Reuss (D., Wis.), said yesterday a Florida member of the John Birch Society had labeled him "pro-communist and a Soviet sympathizer."

Rep. Reuss told the House he received a letter from George E. Deatherage of Sumner, Fla., criticizing his attacks on the conservative society.

"Inasmuch as it appears you are anti anti-communist," Rep. Reuss said the letter stated, "the natural conclusion is that you are pro communist and a Soviet sympathizer."

Mr. Deatherage went on to say that the Society was keeping records on people like Rep. Reuss in case of an attack by the Russians, according to the congressman.

Rep. Reuss said the letter described these records as a list of "potentially dangerous people who may collaborate with the enemy."

Rep. Reuss said Mr. Deatherage offered him a chance to make a statement on his position. Without a statement, Reuss said he was told he would be classified on the "basis of data we have."
(UPI)

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Washington Post -
A-4 | 4-13-61

Official of Birch Society Lectures in D. C. School

Adult education students in an economics class at Anacostia High School heard the objectives of the ultra-conservative anti-Communist John Birch Society outlined Monday night by a Society field representative, Bryton Barron, of Springfield, Va.

The appearance of Barron, who formerly delivered scathing attacks on the State Department following his retirement from State in 1955, was being investigated yesterday by School Superintendent Carl F. Hansen.

Hansen said he was unaware that Barron was scheduled to speak and emphasized that he does not believe the classroom should be used to promote any particular doctrine.

Most of the questions follow-

ing Barron's talk were asked by the classroom instructor, John A. Murphy. Murphy teaches mathematics during the day at Hart Junior High and instructs adult education courses in English and economics, school officials said.

When a student asked why the Society's membership is kept secret, Murphy answered for Barron, declaring how long would people keep their jobs if it were known they were Society members.

After the class, Murphy was asked by a reporter whether subsequent speakers would present different points of view. He said "of course" but when pressed, said he had no further plans for other programs. Murphy described himself as an "ultra-liberal."

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THE EVENING STAR
Page *c13* Date APR 13 1961

Cheers and Boos Greet Welch Attack on Clergy

SANTA BARBARA, Calif., April 13 (AP).—Applause liberally sprinkled with boos and hisses greeted a speech last night by Robert Welch, head of the rightwing John Birch Society.

A crowd of 1,100—many heckling—jammed a high school auditorium as Mr. Welch gave essentially the same speech he had delivered to applause and cheers in Los Angeles the evening before. His theme: Communists and Communist sympathizers are infiltrating the Government and Protestant ministry.

Mr. Welch, founder of the society, which describes itself as militantly anti-Communist,

was interrupted by applause times, but there were hisses and boos from a group of college students.

They were especially when Mr. Welch attacked Justice Earl Warren and the world of anthropology.

Birch Society has "been cially and publicly indorsed."

Richard Cardinal Cushing let carries a reproduction of an April 28, 1960, letter from

Cardinal Cushing of Boston to a Los Angeles man, which he said: "... I do know of any more dedicated anti-Communist in the country than Robert Welch."

unhesitatingly recommended

Dr. Gusinde Wins Award for Work In Anthropology

The Rev. Dr. Martin Gusinde, C.V.D., an anthropologist formerly associated with Catholic University, yesterday received

the Annandale Memorial Medal, one of the highest awards in the world of anthropology.

The presentation, marking Dr. Gusinde's studies in Asian culture, was made by Austrian

Ambassador Wilfried Platzer at the Embassy, 2419 Wyoming

avenue N.W. The medal, awarded once every three years, was established some years ago by the

Council of the Asiatic Society in Calcutta, which was organized in 1789. It is named for

one of the founders and honors "conspicuously important contributors" to the study of Asian anthropology.

Photographers To Discuss

White House Press Secretary Pierre Salinger suggested today that officers of the White House News Photographers Association meet with him to discuss what the photographers call a "misunderstanding" regarding membership of Negroes in the association.

The question arose at President Kennedy's press conference yesterday. A reporter told Mr. Kennedy that the WHNPA bars Negro members, and asked if he felt that a group attached to the White House should follow such a policy.

"No, I don't," the President replied. "I hope they will let everyone in. I'm sure when the matter is brought to their attention, they will permit

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The Evening Star
April 16, 1961
Page 193

Hiestand Hits At Third Party

CHICAGO, April 15 (AP).—Representative Edgar W. Hiestand, Republican of California, says a third political party "would be disaster for the Nation."

Mr. Hiestand, a member of the John Birch Society, a controversial conservative and anti-Communist group, spoke yesterday at the New Party rally, a convention to organize a conservative political party.

Several members of the society are attending the three-day meeting, sponsored by the Independent American, a New Orleans periodical.

Representative August E. Johansen, Republican of Michigan, is to lead off today's program by introducing a showing of the movie, "Operation Abolition." Others slated to speak are David M. Moltrop, of Washington, executive secretary of the Committee on State Sovereignty; Dr. Dorothy B. Wyvell, Texas pediatrician; Robert F. Clifton, a Los Angeles section leader of the Birch Society; Harold P. Poeschel, a New Jersey insurance executive, and Kent Courtney of New Orleans, publisher of the Independent American and convention chairman.

Tom Anderson, Nashville, Tenn., publisher of Farm and Ranch magazine, and Mayor J. Bracken Lee of Salt Lake City, a former Governor of Utah, are scheduled to address the closing New Party rally tonight.

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THE EVENING STAR
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APR 11 1961

Wedemeyer Hits Welch's Birch Story

Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer has refused to join the John Birch Society and has accused its founder, Robert H. W. Welch, Jr., of distorting the circumstances surrounding the death of the society's namesake, according to a North American Newspaper Alliance report by Victor Lasky.

As Mr. Welch tells the story, John Birch, a missionary turned Army intelligence officer, was killed by Chinese Communists 10 days after the end of World War II. He has described him as "the first casualty" of the cold war and has charged the Pentagon with attempting to suppress the facts of the Birch case at the behest of hidden pro-Soviet forces.

"That just isn't true," says Gen. Wedemeyer, who was the American commander in China at the time of Birch's death. "I just can't believe that the case was hushed up. I had sent a full report to Washington at the time. As I recall, I reported that the unfortunate episode had been provoked by Birch's arrogant behavior toward a Communist patrol."

Gen. Wedemeyer said Birch "was only one of a number of brave, courageous Americans who were killed in one incident, or another about the same time. Why Birch should have been singled out for special attention is beyond my comprehension."

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THE EVENING STAR
Washington, D. C., Friday, April 14, 1961

Birch Link to Program Denied by Gen. Walker

AUGSBURG, Germany, April 14 (AP).— Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker denied today that his division information program is connected with the controversial John Birch Society.

He also declared statements attributed to him alleging prominent American political leaders are "pink" or Communist were untrue.

The general, commander of the 24th Infantry Division here, issued his statement after a privately owned, servicemen's newspaper, Overseas Weekly, claimed his division was exposed to "a propaganda barrage on the philosophy of the controversial John Birch Society."

The newspaper said this campaign was run by "special warfare" programs set up by Gen. Walker.

Independent Program

Asked to comment, the general stated:

"The special warfare section of the headquarters staff of the 24th Infantry Division coordinates the pro-blue program, which is original and extensive in source material. The program is not associated or affiliated with any organization or society. It is designed to develop the understanding of American military and civil heritage, responsibility toward that heritage, and the tactics and objectives of those enemies who would destroy it."

The John Birch Society is a militantly conservative organization which has come under fire in the United States recently. Books and magazines sponsored by the anti-Communist society have been made available to troops in Gen. Walker's division and the division newspaper has reprinted material from publications of the society.

The Overseas Weekly, which has no official Government or Army connection, also quoted Gen. Walker as telling an American PTA group in Augsburg last year that political leaders such as former President Harry S. Truman, former Secretary of State Dean Acheson and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt are "definitely pink."

Pentagon Statement

He also allegedly said 60 per cent of the American press, radio and television industries is Communist.

Referring to these reports, Gen. Walker said:

"Statements in the Overseas Weekly of 16 April 1961 alleged

to have been made by me on 24 January 1960 are untrue."

A Pentagon spokesman in Washington said the Army had "no knowledge of any such activity" by Gen. Walker, who is a combat veteran of World War II and Korea.

The Army announced last Sunday that Gen. Walker is being shifted to the United States in August to take over the 8th Corps in Texas. An Army spokesman said yesterday the move was routine and any idea that it was connected with the story in the Overseas Weekly was "absolutely false and without foundation."

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THE EVENING STAR

Page A 14 Date APR 14 1961

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Welch Scores Kennedy Talk When Senator

SANTA BARBARA, Calif., April 14 (AP).—Robert Welch, head of the right-wing John Birch Society, says President Kennedy appears "less a captive of Communist influences" than former President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

But the Birch Society leader added:

"Kennedy has done many things considered soft on communism in a political way, such as his speech as a United States Senator in support of the Communist-controlled Algerian rebels. I was sorry to

see anyone in our Government take such a stand."

Mr. Welch appeared on a local TV panel show to end his Southern California stay. He refused permission to have the taped program shown on the TV networks. He said the Birch Society would have no control over fragments taken out of context and re-telecast.

Third Party Opposed

Mr. Welch said he opposes conservative plans to form a third party.

"We have no interest in a third party," he said. "I refused to go out to a meeting in Chicago because of the third party overtones to it."

He emphasized, however, that the third party advocates convening in Chicago include many "good people with good purposes."

Mr. Welch said he supported Senator Goldwater, Republican of Arizona, for the 1960 presi-

dential nomination. But he said the society has never "taken any position in politics nor intends to take any."

He refused to single out persons in Government he considers Communist sympathizers.

"I will not mention names because there has been a gag rule that makes it hard for the Senate Investigating Committee and the House Un-American Activities Committee to operate," he said. "They have not even made an attempt to expose Communists in Government for years."

Barron Addresses Meeting

Meanwhile, in Chicago, the conservative group to which Mr. Welch referred yesterday heard Bryton Barron of Springfield, Va., State co-ordinator of the Birch Society, speak on "Evidence of Communist Influence in the State Department."

Mr. Barron, former chief of

the Historical Section of the State Department, said:

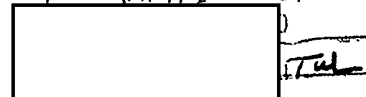
"Men down the line, men unknown to the general public, men without any popular mandate whatsoever to do so, really make foreign policy in the State Department."

He said minor officials in the State Department were responsible for "the establishment of a Communist regime in Cuba" and that there is "danger of another Munich in the Far East" in the possibility of diplomatic recognition of Communist China by the United States.

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Warmed-Over Charge ^{A18}

Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, has told a Texas audience that 7,000 Protestant clergymen are either Communists or Communist sympathizers. That this has a familiar ring is not surprising. For it is just a warmed-over version of a similar accusation made some eight years ago by J. B. Matthews, then staff director of the McCarthy subcommittee. As a matter of fact, Mr. Matthews used the same figure—7,000—and it seems a bit odd, to say the least, that the number of Red-oriented ministers is changeless. One would think that after eight years there might be 7,001 or perhaps 6,999. But no, the total remains the same, neither one more nor one less.

When the Matthews accusation first came to light it created quite a stir. It split the subcommittee, ended in Matthews' resignation and brought a denunciation from the then President Eisenhower, who, incidentally, is also suspected of Communist leanings by the Birch Society's founder. Now, on the second time around, the charge does not seem to be boosting anyone's blood pressure. And this is as it should be. For there is no point in getting excited.

over Mr. Welch's absurd complaint. There is no point in it because these verbal extravagances carry their own built-in penalty—oblivion. Given a little time, Mr. Welch will fade from the headlines just as did Mr. Matthews after 1953.

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THE EVENING STAR
Washington, D. C., Wednesday, April 19, 1961

Lutheran Leader Sees Harm in Birch Group

By CASPAR NANNES
Star Staff Writer

A Lutheran leader today warned members against submitting to pressure of extreme groups from either left or right at a meeting in St. Marks' Lutheran Church, Springfield, Va. Dr. Malvin H. Lundeen of Minneapolis, president of the 600,000-member Augustana Lutheran Church, declared that pressures from such groups as the John Birch Society are as those from extreme leftist groups.

Dr. Lundeen said that "communism is dangerous and we need to be aware of it. But there is a totalitarianism of the extreme right position which is also extremely dangerous. It is dangerous because it comes to us in the guise of patriotism."

The church leader asserted that "we must always remember that it was the extreme rightist position that made Hitler's rise in Germany possible. History shows it was the church that stood up against Hitler. We have a power in the gospel that is the best antidote for totalitarianism in any form and let us not sell it short."

Church Called Answer

Dr. Lundeen asserted that the church and its teachings can take care of the pressures from the extreme left as well as from the extreme right. He said that as far back as 1947 the church warned us against Communism and the church has never changed its position.

Delegates to the 91st annual meeting of the New York Conference, Augustana Lutheran Church, were to vote today on whether the national body should join with three other Lutheran groups to form a new 3.1 million member denomination.

The four churches considering union as the Lutheran Church in America next year are the United Lutheran Church, 2.5 million members; Augustana Lutheran Church, 800,000 members; Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church (Suomi Synod), 36,000 members, and the American Evangelical Lutheran Church, 24,000 members.

Last week the Virginia Synod of the United Lutheran Church meeting at Resurrection Lutheran Church, Arlington, Va., approved the merger step. It is one of 32 synods of the denomination, with 22 affirmative votes needed for that national church body to sanction the move.

Would Be Largest

If the proposed union goes into effect in June 1962 at Detroit, the new Lutheran Church in America will be the largest Lutheran denomination in the United States and Can-

ada. Next largest would be the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, 2.4 million members, and The American Lutheran Church, 2.25 million members.

The New York Conference, with 300 ministerial and lay delegates representing 55,000 Augustana Lutherans in 125 congregations has churches in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, Virginia, Florida and the District of Columbia. It is the third largest of 13 regional units comprising the national Augustana Lutheran Church, which has 1,250 congregations.

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THE EVENING STAR
Page *A14* Date APR 21 1961

Kennedy Says Birch Fire Is Misdirected *A14*

President Kennedy said today he thought the controversial John Birch Society should concern itself more with "the real problems" of communism and worry less about the loyalty of former Presidents Eisenhower and Truman, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and himself.

The President, asked about the anti-Communist group at his press conference, said that "I don't feel that their judgments are based on accurate information on the kinds of challenges that we face."

Mr. Kennedy said the real challenge of communism stemmed from the advance of subversive forces in many countries of the Free World and did not center on the problem of loyalty in high places in the American Government.

"I would hope that all those who are strongly concerned about it," Mr. Kennedy said, "would address themselves to the kind of problems which are created by Laos, Viet Nam,

by internal subversion and by the desperate life lived by so many people in this hemisphere."

On a related matter the President denied that Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker had been relieved of his command in Europe for "teaching troops anti-Communist doctrine."

Mr. Kennedy said he had simply ordered an investigation of charges in the press that Gen. Walker was using materials of the Birch Society in training troops.

"No decision has been made in regard to Gen. Walker until the investigation has been completed," the President said, adding that the general and his critics will be given every opportunity to present the facts to the proper authorities.

He said Defense Secretary McNamara will make the final decision on the Walker case and then he will review it personally, "without prejudice to Gen. Walker."

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APR 21 1961

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WELCH'S BROTHER DENIES BIRCH TIES

Stresses Society Founder's Separation From Company

James O. Welch, president of the Welch Candy Company, said yesterday that his brother, Robert H. W. Welch Jr., founder of the John Birch Society, had had no connection with the company for four years.

He also said he and his company had never had any connection with the society, a semi-secret, ultra-conservative, anti-Communist organization.

Robert Welch has stirred controversy and has been charged with "smear tactics" because of attacks on political leaders he has accused.

James Welch was interviewed by telephone at his home in Cambridge, Mass. He confirmed reports that he had issued a memorandum to his company's salesmen telling them how to answer customers' inquiries about his brother's activities.

According to James Welch, his brother resigned as one of the company's four vice presidents in 1957 rather than give up outside political activities. Robert Welch founded the John Birch Society in 1958.

James Welch said his brother had been with the company for twenty-two years but owned none of its stock.

In the early Nineteen Fifties, Robert Welch grew interested in politics as a conservative Republican and became concerned over the problem of Communist infiltration, according to his brother.

The latter said Robert Welch devoted more and more time to

outside activities. James Welch went on:

"While his activities were not of a controversial nature at that time, I felt strongly they had no place in a business like ours."

'Quite Controversial'

At the time the memorandum was distributed, James Welch continued, Robert "had become quite a controversial figure."

"I know," James Welch wrote in the memorandum, "that there must be many of our customers who not only disagree with his viewpoint but may be very much disturbed over his activities."

James Welch said neither he nor the company shared his brother's viewpoint. He added that Robert had resigned after a "frank discussion" with him.

"Our company emphatically has nothing to do with the John Birch Society and my brother Robert has no connection with this company and owns no stock in it," James Welch said.

James Welch said his principal disagreement with Robert had grown out of the latter's questioning the patriotism of people who disagreed with him.

"I might think some government officials make mistakes, but that doesn't make them disloyal," he went on.

He said he believed Robert was motivated by patriotism as he saw it and there was no "family fight" over the situation.

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THE WASH. POST & TIMES HERALD
Page A-8 Date 5-5-61

Austin Wants No Member Tie to Birch

Robert H. Austin, chairman of the National Committee for a Representative Congress, has asked any members of his Committee who may have joined the John Birch Society to drop out of one group or the other.

Austin said he took the action because the policies and practices of the two groups "are diametrically opposed."

The statements attributed to Robert Welch, the Birch Society's leader, "have the seriously harmful effect of weakening the confidence of the American people in their leaders at perhaps the most critical time in the history of the Nation," Austin said.

Austin said his group thinks that if citizens do not believe the Nation's leaders are doing a good job, the proper recourse is to vote them out of office and not to smear, malign, and slander them.

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, WFO (100-38767)

DATE: May 8, 1961

FROM : SCS

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

On April 10, 1961, SA KENNETH T. DELAVIGNE, who is presently on special assignment with the House Committee on Appropriations, advised me that in 1956 Congressman ROONEY, at the request of the House Subcommittee for State and Justice of the House Committee on the Judiciary, made an investigation at the State Department. One of the persons called upon to testify at that time was one BRITON BARRON. He was severely criticized by the Committee for his stalling tactics and for his ill-founded remarks and complaints regarding alleged communist influence in the State Department. Mr. DELAVIGNE noted that newspapers have recently identified BARRON as the field representative for Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia of the captioned society and possibly he is its local head. DELAVIGNE noted that BARRON's testimony and the criticism and other derogatory information concerning him was published in the Subcommittee Hearings. DELAVIGNE also recalled that at the conclusion of these hearings in May of 1957 BARRON wrote a letter to the Director and complained about an investigation which allegedly had been conducted by the FBI.

DELAVIGNE stated that BARRON is presently retired from the State Department, lives in Springfield, Virginia, and is still a powerful man with many influential friends and spends a good deal of time on the Hill. DELAVIGNE said that should active investigation of BARRON or this society be initiated, he has a copy of the aforementioned hearings which he can make available for the use of this office.

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THE EVENING STAR
Page A 7 Date MAY 10 1961

Rules Unit Delays Vote On Birch Society Probe

By ROBERT K. WALSH
Star Staff Writer

The House Rules Committee juggled a hot potato resolution today to investigate the John Birch Society—a proposal backed by members as well as critics of the ultra-conservative organization.

The 15-member committee put off at least until next week a vote on whether to send the bill to the House floor.

The only witnesses were Republican Representatives Hiestand and Rousselot of California. They declared their membership in the society but said they disagree with what they described as personal views of the founder, Robert Welch, retired Massachusetts candy manufacturer.

Ask Clearing of Air

"They defended the society's aims and operations as patriotic, educational, non-political and non-discriminatory. Mr. Hiestand said an investigation is needed because of 'a great deal of grass-roots demand' and to clear up and refute 'many distorted and unsubstantiated charges and innuendos' against the society."

Mr. Rousselot suggested that the investigation would be "a healthy thing to clear the air" of charges that the society has Fascist, Nazi or Ku Klux Klan tinges.

The hearing dealt with Mr. Hiestand's resolution for crea-

tion of a 7-member House committee to conduct an inquiry.

Most Rules Committee members seemed inclined at the outset to handle the whole thing swiftly and somewhat gingerly. A California Democrat, Representative Sisk, said he has a hunch the society wants publicity. Representative Madden, Democrat of Indiana, questioned the witnesses closely.

Madden Proposed

When the session itself began to take on the tone of an investigation of the society, Chairman Howard W. Smith, Democrat of Virginia, remarked to Mr. Hiestand:

"Usually the sponsor of a resolution for a special committee investigation eventually becomes chairman of such a committee. But you are a member of the John Birch Society and you also are a Republican. However, Mr. Madden seems so interested in this matter

that you ought to try to induce him to introduce a resolution like yours and perhaps he could be chairman if we decide to have an investigating committee."

Mr. Madden leveled his fire mainly against reported statements of Mr. Welch that former President Eisenhower and several other high-level Government officials were at least susceptible to communism.

"I am not condemning John Birch Society members," he explained, "but I do criticize them for keeping their membership after they hear what their founder said. Maybe you ought to get a new founder."

"If you join," Mr. Hiestand said, "maybe you could help us get a new founder."

Mr. Hiestand and Mr. Rousselot said they believed Mr. Welch was wrong and unfair in his reported criticism of Gen. Eisenhower, the late Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and others. Mr. Rousselot promised he would quit the society "the day that such views become its official policy."

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THE WASH. POST & TIMES HERALD
Page *A13* Date MAY 16 1961

These Days The Overseas Weekly

By George E. Sokolsky

HAVING READ of Gen. Edwin A. Walker's troubles, I thought it might be well to have a look at The Overseas Weekly which was responsible for the fracas. The newspaper accused the general, in effect, of being a traitor in washing American troops with American doctrines.



Sokolsky

I got two copies of this newspaper which says that it is "a touch of home away from home." So, it is full of pictures of bosomy girls. On page 3, I came upon the Gen. Walker story. The newspaper asserts that the general is to be investigated because The Overseas Weekly accused him of exposing American troops "to the philosophy of the controversial John Birch Society." The Weekly itself reports that Gen. Walker had referred to it as, "immoral, unscrupulous, corrupt and destructive."

Men may differ as to policies and ideas, but no law forbids anyone from joining the John Birch Society or from advocating its policies. This organization does not propose to overthrow the American Government by

force and violence. The issue of The Overseas Weekly at which I am looking gives the impression that membership in this Society is a crime of sorts.

THE PRINCIPLE set forth by this newspaper is embodied in this sentence.

"We don't pretend to know how to operate militarily and we have never thought we had a right to dictate the thought of others. No man has a right to do harm to another human being."

This is utter nonsense. This country is engaged in war with the Soviet universal state. This country is doctrinally opposed to communism. Every Communist is an enemy of the United States. It is the function of every official of the United States to dig out those who advocate communism and to drive them out of the armed forces.

The theory that the editors of The Overseas Weekly may say what they please but not the general responsible for the physical, mental and moral being of the troops is nonsense.

The tone of the paper may best be described by two pictures on page 28 of a German girl hardly clothed. The caption reads:

"Angelika Casemann, Miss Hesse of 1960, is an aspiring 21-year-old actress whose fa-

vorite pastimes are traveling and meeting wealthy men. Sounds cold blooded? Well . . ."

Is this news from home?

The Overseas Weekly states its purpose in this instance:

"But it is the responsibility of this newspaper to bring to public attention any Government official in uniform who uses his power and authority, Government means of communication to influence or dictate the beliefs of subordinates."

"It is furthermore our responsibility to point out officials who propagate beliefs in direct opposition to those upheld by the duly elected leaders."

"These points, we believe, are important in considering the situation at the 24th Infantry Division."

Who has set this newspaper up as an agency to monitor the thinking and the expression of thought of officers in the American Army? Surely this episode calls for an investigation by a congressional committee to discover what really happened in the Walker incident. Was the general committing an offense or was he persecuted for loyalty?

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5/16/61

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, WFO (100-38767)

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING

This is to advise that Lieutenant [redacted] Special Investigations Squad, MPD, has advised WFO that he has received information that ROBERT WELCH, founder of subject organization, will appear on "Meet the Press" on 5/21/61. The program will be televised at 6:00 p.m. on WRC TV, Channel 4.

Above for Bureau's information.

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2-WFO
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THE EVENING STAR
Page C14 Date MAY 18 1961

C-14

Birch Critics Hit Congress Probe

By the Associated Press

Eighteen Democratic Representatives, who oppose the John Birch Society, have urged Congress not to investigate the extreme rightist organization.

"We have the gravest reservations as to the authority of the Congress, or any committee of the Congress, to become final arbiters of what

constitutes 'Americanism,' they said in a letter.

In the letter the Democrats said:

"There has been no suggestion by any of the undersigned (who are all proud to be among those opposing the society) that the members of the society are 'disloyal.'

"Let there be no mistake. We strongly — very strongly — disagree with the program promoted by the John Birch Society. It is possible that this society and others of its kind are abusing the postal rates

made available to non-profit organizations. The Post Office and Civil Service Committee is qualified to investigate this, and should do so. No select committee is required."

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THE WASH. POST & TIMES HERALD
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Birch Leader Here Quits Over 'Gagging'

The local coordinator of the John Birch Society has resigned to protest the "gagging" of staff members by higher-ups.

Bryton Barron of 5814 Hanover ave., Springfield, Va., said his resignation as coordinator in protest against "dictatorial and repressive trends" may be in effect a resignation from the Society.

"It will probably have the effect of a resignation from the Society," he said. "I may be dropped."

Barron declined to extend his comments to the policies of the Society generally, but said in a telephone interview that "it's quite different from what we had originally."

Barron, a former State Department employe, said he left that job in 1958 after a disagreement over what he thought was suppression of some of the Yalta Conference documents.

His conflict with the Birch Society apparently stems from his insistence on commenting to the "home office," to other members of the society and in public on Society affairs.

The new "gag rule" which he finds intolerable, he said, prohibits all of these.

"If you can't criticize," he said, "how can your statements mean anything."

Barron said his resignation has been accepted by Robert Welch, the retired Belmont, Mass., candy manufacturer who is founder and head of the Society.

It was from Welch's Belmont office, Barron said, that the first directive against public statements about the Society and discussions by staff members with other society members first came.

In his wire, however, Barron was particularly critical of the Society's major coordinator and its director of field activities, neither of whom he named.

Barron was told, he wired Welch, "that I must not write to the home office to question certain new trends within the Society. The brash young man (major coordinator) even proceeds to tell me what I may not discuss with friends in privacy of my own home."

Barron also charged that the director of field activities sought to prevent any public statements by staff members. Barron has denied on several occasions that the John Birch Society is a secret organization. "Only its membership lists are secret," he has said.

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THE WASH. POST & TIMES HERALD
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Democracy Worst, Says Birch Head

Robert H. Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, declared last night that "the worst of all forms of government is a democracy."

The best government, he said, is "a constitutional republic," which he did not, however, define.

Welch did deny that he wanted to turn the United States into a monolithic government under authoritarian control.

Appearing on "Meet the Press" (NBC-WRC-TV), Welch answered questions put to him by a panel of four newsmen. At times the exchanges between Welch and his questioners were heated.

Welch's appearance marked one of the few times he has submitted to public questioning. The John Birch Society is a right-wing organization that has become increasingly controversial in recent months.

For the most part Welch's answers to questions constituted a restatement of his widely published views.

But when questioned about statements he had made that former President Eisenhower, the late John Foster Dulles and Gen. George C. Marshall were Communists, Welch neither affirmed nor denied the statements.

Welch said that his Society was "growing rapidly" and was not suffering from the publicity it has received recently. He refused to say how large the Society was or to discuss any aspects of its financing.

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was based on the recommendation of ~~the~~ Birch Society. He said he had been a dedicated anti-Communist himself long before he joined the Birch group in 1959 and has spent between \$5,000 and \$10,000 of his own money alerting people to the danger from Russia.

"I made myself a personal vow in Korea in 1953," Gen. Walker testified, "that I would find out why the war terminated as it did under the circumstances and conditions in which it did."

In pursuing his anti-Communist objectives, Gen. Walker said, "I have reported people to the FBI and I have asked for FBI opinion on an organization." He did not identify the organization.

Use of Own Funds Explained

Among the other activities Gen. Walker mentioned as part of his anti-Communist effort were participation in Moral Re-Armament conferences and Freedom Forums. He also sent a "personal emissary" to a Christian Crusade in Tulsa and distributed with his own funds several thousand copies of a pamphlet called "Will There Be a Christmas?"

In Heidelberg, Germany, Gen. Walker said yesterday that release of the investigation report is "very unusual." In a statement reported by the Associated Press, the general also said he would not answer the question of whether he was a member of the Birch Society until he sees a full copy of the report.

The terms he read from excerpts of the report, Gen. Walker said, "bring up many questions." Some of the terms, he said, "could only be evaluated by American civil legal counsel."

Among the terms he cited in his statement, the AP reported, were "charged . . . violated . . . disciplined . . . relieved of command . . . eccentric . . . communism."

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B-5 Birch Slogan on Mail Stirs Letters of Protest

A John Birch Society slogan, printed on envelopes by postage meters, has brought complaints to the Post Office Department and apparent embarrassment to the postal meter firm which provided the plates.

A spokesman for the Post Office Department said the slogan was printed by postage meters leased to six businessmen-members of the conservative society. The slogan said, "This is a republic, not a democracy—Let's keep it that way!"

The slogan brought letters of protest to postmasters in many parts of the country and to the Postmaster General's office here, the spokesman said.

"Not Censors"

"We're not acting as censors in this thing," he added, "or attempting to pass on the truth of the slogan. All we know is that the slogan has produced objections from the public, and we, asked the meter company to try to have the slogan removed."

The meter firm, Pitney-Bowes Co. of Stamford, Conn., reportedly had authorized the slogan last fall before the Birch group became the object of congressional criticism because of the views of its leader, Robert Welch of Belmont, Mass.

The postal spokesman said Pitney-Bowes had succeeded in talking three of the Birch members out of using the slogan, but that the other three so far had declined to remove it.

Removal Urged

He said the department urged Pitney-Bowes to have the slogans removed because the Postal Code says nothing should be coupled with United States postage that would be "misleading or objectionable." The receipt of complaining letters was enough to make the message objectionable, he said.

Pitney-Bowes, which makes most of the 300,000 postal meters in use, could cancel its lease with the three reluctant Birch members, but company officials reportedly are unwilling to do so.

Whatever the outcome, neither the Post Office Department nor Pitney-Bowes want to be drawn into an argument on

whether the Nation is really a republic or a democracy. Most historians feel the question is academic and cannot be solved because the words now represent different ideas from what they meant in the 1780s.

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BIRCH SOCIETY HIT BY JEWISH LEADER

B'nai B'rith Counsel Calls
Organization Dangerous

By IRVING SPIEGEL

Special to The New York Times.

KIAMESHA LAKE, N. Y., June 6—Arnold Forster, general counsel of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, said tonight that the exposure of the John Birch Society by the nation's press had sharply impaired its chances for success.

Mr. Forster told 2,000 delegates attending the 109th annual convention of the B'nai B'rith District 1 at the Concord Hotel that the program of the Birch Society was "as dangerous to American democracy as the communism it purports to fight."

Since its establishment, in 1913, the league, which maintains headquarters in New York, has been B'nai B'rith's educational arm devoted to the safeguarding of civil rights and the betterment of human relations.

Speaking at the dinner session, Mr. Forster said that the limelight now focussed on the society "denies it the secrecy of operation" that its founder, Robert H. W. Welch Jr., "deems essential if it is to avoid the failure of its predecessors."

Mr. Forster contended that because the John Birch Society was able to operate in secrecy "it is the only current Right-Wing, anti-democratic group that has grown into a well organized and financed movement with actual programs and status."

Calls Program Absurd

Mr. Forster labeled the society "the spiritual successor to the American First and McCarthy movements."

Mr. Forster termed the society's program an "absurdity," asserting that "it looks upon such disparate matters as floodation of water, the NATO treaty, integration, Social Security, and incomes taxes as Red plots, thereby hoping to attract to its ranks the dissidents of our society."

The Birch Society, Mr. Forster said, does not answer two basic questions "to justify its existence as a legitimate organization in a free society." He gave these questions as, "Does it describe the problem it confronts with factual accuracy and honesty?" and "Is the remedy of offers made with a sense of responsibility and within the framework of American constitutional concepts?"

Mr. Forster said the society failed "both tests." He asserted that the problem of Communist subversion in this country "is exaggerated and distorted out of recognition."

He declared that the Birch Society "propagates the patent absurdity that our country is 40 to 60 per cent Communist-controlled."

In calling attention to other Right-Wing movements of recent years, Mr. Forster asserted that the American people had rejected all of them when their "activities became known and understood."

Reporting on the Adolf Eichmann trial in Jerusalem, which he attended as an observer for the league, Mr. Forster described the legal proceedings as "a genocide trial, not a war-crimes trial."

"Israel," Mr. Forster said, "has stamped deliberate mass murder of an entire religious group as a crime punishable by law. For this accomplishment alone, the world should regard the trial as advancing the cause of civilized society."

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Gen. Walker Rebuked For Attack on Leaders

By the Associated Press

The Army today rebuked Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker for labeling as pinks or Communists former President Harry S. Truman, other leading Democrats, and segments of the United States press and radio-TV industries.

Announcing findings of an investigation ordered by President Kennedy, the Army said the 24th Infantry Division's troop information program put into effect by Gen. Walker "was not attributable to any program of the John Birch Society."

Assignment Canceled

Charges that Gen. Walker had subjected troops of his command in Europe to propaganda from the militantly conservative Birch Society touched off the inquiry.

Along with rebuking Gen. Walker, the Army canceled his pending assignment to command the 8th Corps at Austin, Tex., and ordered him to remain in his present post "pending eventual reassignment within the United States."

Secretary of the Army Stahr announced "the admonishment" of Gen. Walker for "tak-



GEN. WALKER

ing injudicious actions and for making derogatory public statements about prominent Americans while in command of the 24th Infantry Division in Germany."

The Army said the admonition was administered to Gen. Walker by Gen. Bruce C.

Clarke, commander in chief of Army forces in Europe.

The reprimand action had the approval of President Kennedy, who ordered the investigation nearly two months ago. Mr. Kennedy reviewed the findings.

Tabloid Stirred Probe

The investigation stemmed from charges published by the Overseas Weekly, a privately owned tabloid newspaper widely read by United States servicemen in Europe.

The paper said that Gen. Walker used the 24th Division's troop information program to subject his troops to propaganda of the Birch Society.

It also said that he told an American PTA meeting in Augsburg that Mr. Truman, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, and former Secretary of State Dean Acheson were "definitely pink."

In the same speech, the paper said, the 51-year-old General said 60 per cent of the American press and radio-TV industry are Communist. And it alleged he described as "confirmed Communists" Edward R. Murrow, now director of the United States Information Agency, and Columnist Walter Lippmann and commentator Eric Sevareid.

Gen. Walker denied the paper's charges and called the Overseas Weekly unscrupulous. President Kennedy then ordered an inquiry.

Ruling Not "Penalty"

The Army said that administrative admonitions are not intended as punishment or penalty, but are "corrective measures more analogous to instruction."

However, the Army said the significance of an admonition in this particular case is greatly increased by public announcement that such action is being taken.

At the time Mr. Kennedy ordered the investigation in mid-April, Gen. Walker was relieved as commander of the 24th Division and assigned to a staff post at Army headquarters in Heidelberg.

He had been scheduled, before the storm broke, to take command of the 8th Corps in Texas in August.

The Army said today this job will be taken by Maj. Gen. Thomas R. Yancey, now commanding general of the 2d In-

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Peril to Social System Seen in Birch Society

By WILLIAM DUKE
Star Staff Writer

A national conference of Jewish organizations on civil liberties heard the John Birch Society described yesterday as a group which would "rip apart the social structure" of the Nation "and would lead us into a quicksand of reaction."

Dr. Alan F. Westin, a Co-

lumbia University government professor, said the ultra-conservative society was an "authentic, muscle-flexing, purebred specimen of right fundamentalist organization."

Dr. Westin addressed the representatives of six national and 54 regional Jewish organizations at the Shoreham Hotel.

Dr. Westin said he believed the most dangerous issue broached by the Birch Society was a racial one. He said that with integration becoming a national issue, the Birch Society has "a promising position" in anti-integration by comp-

"If racial supremacy ever becomes a substantial force outside the South," he said, "it will take exactly the form of gentile anti-equality which Welch preaches." Robert Welch, jr., a retired Massachusetts candy manufacturer, is the leader and principal driving force in the Birch Society.

Discussion Begin

Dr. Westin spoke as the National Community Relations Advisory Council began discussion of resolutions bearing on civil liberties. During their four-day conference, the delegates will also discuss current legislation granting Federal aid to parochial schools, church-state separation issues, immigration policies and the present United States foreign policy in the Middle East.

"The Birch Society is the least useful organization to appear on the American political scene for 10 decades," Dr. Westin said. The Columbia University professor said that America's foreign and domestic problems favored the growth of movements like the Birch Society at present.

Dr. Westin said the sum total of the society's programs "adds up to a nihilist's plea to repeal the 20th century, abolish international politics and to return to a state of nature in an urbanized Garden of Eden. The program can be called rational or even political only by those who do not know what these words mean."

Points to Goldwater

Dr. Westin said the future of the Birch Society is bound, to a large degree, to the successes of Senator Goldwater, Republican of Arizona. Senator Goldwater, the most prominent spokesman for the conservative group in Congress, is a possible candidate for the Republican presidential nomination in 1964.

Dr. Westin said the Senator was in the middle because of Birch Society activities. He said the Society could embar-

ass the Senator by its extremism.

"If Senator Goldwater should decide that the third party route was his best course (for the presidential nomination)," Dr. Westin said, "he could mould the fundamentalist right into a cohesive movement, and it would assume immediate political influence."

The Columbia professor, who stated he had systematically examined every official publication and statement by the society since 1958, said he had no pat solution to offer.

"Unlike the fundamentalists of the left or right," he said, "I have no puff-of-smoke solution to offer you. I see fundamentalism as a permanent factor in American history and politics, and one which has been strengthened by the crises of urbanization, cold war, and religious decline."

The community relations delegates were expected to act on civil liberties resolutions, including several dealing with groups like the John Birch Society.

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THE WASHINGTON POST Friday, July 7, 1961

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Birch Society Asks Members to Help Compile Red-Sympathizer Dossiers

NEW YORK, July 6 (UPI)—The founder of the John Birch Society has asked its members to help compile "the most complete and most accurate files in America on the leading Comsymps; (Birch Society for Communist sympathizers), Socialists and Liberals."

Robert Welch said he hoped to fill hundreds of filing cabinets with dossiers on "those who are trying to change the economic and political structure of this country so that it could be comfortably merged

with Soviet Russia in a one-world Socialist government."

Writing in the July issue of his Society's bulletin, Welch said he believed the largest non-governmental file of this nature in America, which he did not identify, contains 1.5 million names.

He said he believes there are "not more than 300,000 to 500,000 Communists in our country... and not more than a million allies, dupes and sympathizers whom they can count on for any conscious support."

He said he hoped the material would become "the most complete, most accurate, and most useful file in America on the personnel of the whole liberal establishment... We do not know of anybody else who could get thousands of dedicated, informed and careful volunteers to working on such a project, or who would be in a position to organize and utilize the results of all that labor."

He did not say how the information would be used but told members, "These are the files that we are going to need

before we can ever give the whole truth—or enough of it to save our country—to the American people."

Welch asked members to comb libraries, pamphlets collections and other published material for "as complete factual information as possible on the background, connections and activities of all the leading liberals (including of course both Comsymps and dupes)."

Volunteers were directed to list information on separate 8½ by 11 inch pages headed at the upper left corner with the subject's name, to date each entry, list the source with page number.

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NAACP Head Attacks Birch Society as Threat

PHILADELPHIA, July 11 (AP)—The chairman of the board of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People says the John Birch Society in a way is more of a threat to the organization "than iron-pipe mobsters in Alabama."

The chairman, the Right Rev. Stephen Gill Spottswood, told some 1,200 delegates to the opening session of the NAACP's 52d annual convention last night that the organization must intensify and speed its attack on racial barriers.

"We have to keep moving faster, we can't allow ourselves to be headed off by opponents of integration," he said in the keynote address.

The clergyman also singled out as major opponents the White Citizens Council, the Ku Klux Klan, the Southern Gentlemen, Inc., and some Southern Governors, including Gov. John Patterson of Alabama.

Sets No Gutter Campaign

Mr. Spottswood, who is a bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, said the Birch Society "wears the robes of respectability and does not

conduct its campaigns in gutters and alleys."

He said the Birch Society's No. 1 objective is the impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren "for handing down the school segregation ruling."

The society "is also against Federal civil rights and for leaving such matters to the States," the bishop said.

He declared that the NAACP's program is no longer restricted to battles for separate but equal facilities, but is designed to "save our society from plunging into communistic socialism."

Favors "One World"

The program, he said, also is designed "to link the world's continents in an endless chain of true democracy for all citizens of the one world of the future."

In another address before the convention, Gov. David L. Lawrence of Pennsylvania said that efforts by minority groups to improve their status lead to a general uplift of the community at large. But the Governor contended that the first interest of minority groups must be "the advancement of the American Nation."

"The need for action to insure Negro rights is unchanging," Gov. Lawrence said, "but the aims of this organization (NAACP) must extend beyond those goals."

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THE WASH. POST & TIMES HERALD

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Birch Group Called Peril To NAACP

PHILADELPHIA, July 11 (AP) The Chairman of the board of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People says the John Birch Society in a way is more of a threat to the organization "than iron-pipe mobsters in Alabama."

The chairman, the Right Rev. Stephen Gill Spottswood, told some 1200 delegates to the opening session of the NAACP's 52d annual convention last night that the organization must intensify and speed its attack on racial barriers.

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The clergyman also singled out as major opponents the White Citizens Council, the Ku Klux Klan, the Southern Gentlemen Inc., and some Southern Governors, including Gov. John Patterson of Alabama.

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He declared that the NAACP's program is no longer restricted to battles for separate but equal facilities.

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Birch Group Legal, California Official Says

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Aug. 3 (AP).—California's attorney general says the right-wing John Birch Society is authoritarian, paranoid and often ridiculous—but not illegal.

Attorney General Stanley Mosk made his 15-page "personal observations" in answer yesterday to a query from Gov. Edmund G. Brown on whether the society is unlawful. The report was actually written by Assistant Attorney General Howard Jewel.

"The cadre of the John Birch Society seems to be formed primarily of wealthy businessmen, retired military officers and little old ladies in tennis shoes," the report said.

"They are bound together by an obsessive fear of 'communism,' a word which they define to include any idea differing from their own, even though these ideas may differ even more markedly with the ideas of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Khrushchey."

The attorney general said he

planned no formal investigation of the ultra-conservative society headed by Robert Welch, a retired Massachusetts candy maker.

The report called Mr. Welch an "embittered candy maker from Belmont, Mass.," who sought to combat communism even with some violence if necessary.

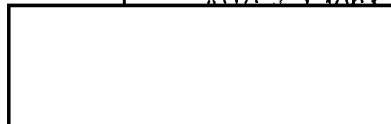
"In assessing patriotism, most Americans would feel the need for differentiating between a paid agent of the Soviet espionage apparatus on the one hand and an American who believes in fluoridation or mental health programs, or the U. N. or Federal aid to education," the report said.

"On the other hand, not so Mr. Welch. He and the Birchers angrily lumped all these together under the blanket accusation of treason."

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THE EVENING STAR

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Birch Head Raps Warren, U. S. Aid

TULSA, Okla., Aug. 5 (AP). —The founder of the ultra-conservative John Birch Society Friday declared war on Chief Justice Warren, then pointed to United States foreign aid as a tool of communism.

Robert Welch, of Belmont, Mass., said in a panel discussion at the Tulsa Press Club that the society will sponsor a nation-wide essay contest this fall for college undergraduates on the topic: "Why Chief Justice Earl Warren should be impeached."

He said a top prize of \$1,000 will be offered for the best essay.

Later Welch spoke before the opening session of the annual national convention of the Christian Crusade, at which he told about 1,000 persons that the "whole foreign aid program is an excellent example" of steps by which the United States has been led toward communism through the years.

Other convention speakers will include Clarence Manion, South Bend, Ind., attorney and former dean of the University of Notre Dame Law College, and Gen. C. A. Willoughby (ret.), of Washington, a former chief of intelligence for Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

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THE EVENING STAR
Washington, D. C., Monday, September 11, 1961

Walker Tells of Joining Birch Society in 1959

By DAVID S. BRODER
Star Staff Writer

Major Gen. Edwin A. Walker told Army investigators he joined the Birch Society after a meeting with its founder, Robert Welch, in the Union League Club in Chicago in May, 1959, but never attended another society session.

Gen. Walker described his relations with the controversial right-wing anti-Communist group during an official investigation of the indoctrination program he ran for members of the 24th Infantry Division in Germany.

The investigation led to Gen. Walker's removal from command of the division and an official rebuke.

Full Transcript Released

The Defense Department today released the full 970-page transcript of last spring's investigation.

It showed Gen. Walker took the military equivalent of the Fifth Amendment when questioned about an editorial in his division newspaper urging soldiers to gauge their Congressmen's records by the scorecard of Americans for Constitutional Action, a conservative political education group.

Under interrogation by Lt. Gen. Frederic J. Brown, Gen. Walker said he could not remember writing the editorial, but declared, "I saw it in some form before it was published" in the "Commanding General's Notebook," of the 24th Division newspaper, The Taro Leaf, last October 8.

Phone Number Furnished

The editorial urged voters to consult their Congressman's record in the ACA Index and furnished a phone number where the information could be obtained.

Gen. Brown read Gen. Walker an Army regulation declaring that "editorials concerning political campaigns will not appear in authorized Army newspapers."

"Do you consider this editorial is in compliance with the Army regulation?" he asked.

"This was obtained through other than military channels," Gen. Walker replied. "I kept no secret that I used it for what it was worth. I have no further comment."

Three times thereafter Gen. Brown repeated his original question.

At one point, Gen. Walker commented, "I didn't refer to this regulation when the decision was made. . . . I have nothing further to add, sir."

Gen. Brown Persists

"Well, I don't understand," Gen. Brown said. "I asked you a question. You can invoke Article 31 if you don't care to answer it."

Article 31 is the provision of the Uniform Code of Military Justice comparable to the Fifth Amendment guarantee against self-incrimination.

Gen. Walker replied, "It is not open and shut to me, even right now. . . . the preponderance of evidence here, reading just the article, is that there is some error in using it this way. This is an article in the Taro Leaf only. It refers to the source."

Gen. Brown said, "Gen. Walker, please, I am not going to put up with quibbling. You have already identified it as an editorial. Let's not start off on another one of these . . ."

At that point, Gen. Walker said, "I stand on Article 31."

"Personal Vow" Made

Throughout his testimony, Gen. Walker denied that his controversial indoctrination program for the 24th Division

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was based on the recommendation of the Birch Society. He said he had been a dedicated anti-Communist himself long before he joined the Birch group in 1959 and has spent between \$5,000 and \$10,000 of his own money alerting people to the danger from Russia.

"I made myself a personal vow in Korea in 1953," Gen. Walker testified, "that I would find out why the war terminated as it did under the circumstances and conditions in which it did."

In pursuing his anti-Communist objectives, Gen. Walker said, "I have reported people to the FBI and I have asked for FBI opinion on an organization." He did not identify the organization.

Use of Own Funds Explained

Among the other activities Gen. Walker mentioned as part of his anti-Communist effort were participation in Moral Re-Armament conferences and Freedom Forums. He also sent a "personal emissary" to a Christian Crusade in Tulsa and distributed with his own funds several thousand copies of a pamphlet called "Will There Be a Christmas?"

In Heidelberg, Germany, Gen. Walker said yesterday that release of the investigation report is "very unusual." In a statement reported by the Associated Press, the general also said he would not answer the question of whether he was a member of the Birch Society until he sees a full copy of the report.

The terms he read from excerpts of the report, Gen. Walker said, "bring up many questions." Some of the terms, he said, "could only be evaluated by American civil legal counsel."

Among the terms he cited in his statement, the AP reported, were "charged . . . violated . . . disciplined . . . relieved of command . . . eccentric . . . communism."

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THE EVENING STAR

Page B4 Date 7/5/61

Birch Head Raps Warren, U. S. Aid

TULSA, Okla., Aug. 5 (AP). —The founder of the ultra-conservative John Birch Society Friday declared war on Chief Justice Warren, then pointed to United States foreign aid as a tool of communism.

Robert Welch, of Belmont, Mass., said in a panel discussion at the Tulsa Press Club that the society will sponsor a nation-wide essay contest this fall for college undergraduates on the topic: "Why Chief Justice Earl Warren should be impeached."

He said a top prize of \$1,000 will be offered for the best essay.

Later Welch spoke before the opening session of the annual national convention of the Christian Crusade, at which he told about 1,000 persons that the "whole foreign aid program is an excellent example" of steps by which the United States has been led toward communism through the years.

Other convention speakers will include Clarence Manion, South Bend, Ind., attorney and former dean of the University of Notre Dame Law College, and Gen. C. A. Willoughby (ret.), of Washington, a former chief of intelligence for Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

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THE WASH. POST & TIMES HERALD

Page *A14* Date OCT 30 1961

Unfair to Sycamores

In his Oct. 4 letter to *The Washington Post*, Mr. Paul Seabury suggests that the John Birch Society is giving the birch tree a bad name and that he is all for passing the odium from the birch to the sycamore, which he calls shabby. This I think is unfair — unfair to the sycamore.

The sycamore is of old and undisputed American stock and true to the traditions of the West (*Platanus occidentalis*). Legend has it that the New York Stock Exchange began under its branches. No one who has seen its white beauty in spring could call it shabby. The sycamore is erect in character and bearing. It does not go around calling people Communists.

What Mr. Seabury complains about is not a true sycamore, but the city version of it which is, in fact, a cross of the sycamore with an Asiatic tree the result being the London Plane tree. If Mr. Seabury is looking for a tree to associate with the John Birch Society, then I suggest he try the beech. Better yet, its progeny!

MILTON COLVIN.
Lexington, Va.

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4—THE WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1961

Gen. Walker Resigns, Warns of Red Conspiracy

'My Career Destroyed'

(See editorial on Page 34.)

By Scripps-Howard Newspapers

Mail Gen. Edwin A.

Walker, who called Harry Truman and Eleanor Roosevelt pink, announced his resignation from the Army yesterday.

He did so with a warning that a scheme of communist subversion in America and its institutions can be traced thru three decades.

Gen. Walker, a member of the right-wing John Birch Society, commanded the 24th Infantry Division in Germany. He was removed from that command after his remarks against Mr. Truman and Mrs. Roosevelt became known.

A subsequent investigation produced a report that he had tried to influence the votes of men serving under him, thus violating the Hatch Act. Upon his removal, he was given a newly created assignment of little importance.

Sen. Strom Thurmond (D., S. C.) made Gen. Walker's announcement public. It was submitted to the Senate Special Preparedness Subcommittee, formed after Sen. Thurmond demanded an investigation into muzzling of military leaders. Gen. Walker's resignation, his second, is expected to be accepted.

Gen. Walker declined to say if he would accept an invitation to appear before the subcommittee. He will stay at his home in San

Antonio, Tex., and there was speculation he would enter politics.

GIVES UP PENSION

In resigning, he gives up a pension equal to three-fourths of his base pay for which he would have been eligible had he retired.

"My career has been destroyed in its usefulness to my country," Gen. Walker declared in his statement. "I cannot accept retirement with its emoluments and benefits. To do so would be a compromise with my principle."

Gen. Walker indicated that he is a victim of "liberals" who once believed in protecting individual liberties. Now, he implied, these "usurpers" — apparently masquerading as "liberals" — have other purposes.

"I think we do not dare let these usurpers decide whether the higher authority is to be . . . God or the Kremlin," he added.

Gen. Walker's statement was lengthy and bitter.

DEFENDS POSITION

He defended his position that soldiers must be instructed as to the nature of communism on grounds that this is the enemy America faces.

Some of his comments appeared directed toward his civilian superiors in the White House and the Defense Department.

"I must be free from the power of little men who, in

the name of my country, punish loyal service to it," he declared.

Gen. Walker quoted others, including FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, Gen. Douglas MacArthur and Gen. Mark Clark, on the threat and danger to this country from communism.

"We have yet to agree among ourselves, and with our allies, to reach a simple definition — communism is the enemy," Gen. Walker said. "We employ its agents in the teaching professions, allowing them to work on the fertile minds of youth seeking a champion to pit against a scapegoat. They infest our entertainment media. They long ago have infiltrated our government so that a scheme of subversion can be traced thru three decades."

"Even our free press is exploited by communist propagandists."

Gen. Walker said that in returning to civilian life he will find some way to continue to do battle with the Reds.

He once before submitted a resignation from the Army, on Aug. 4, 1959, upon assignment to the 24th Division. He said then the Fifth Column was undermining his effectiveness. The Secretary of the Army denied that request.

The pick of the comic panels appear every day in The News.



GEN. WALKER

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THE WASH. POST & TIMES HERALD

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Goldwater Sees No Danger in Birch Society

United Press International

Sen. Barry Goldwater said yesterday that the "Minute men" groups of armed civilians which have appeared in various places around the country "comprise a danger."

But he declared that the John Birch Society "constitutes no danger," and renewed his attack on the "extremists of the left" who, he said, surround President Kennedy.

Appearing on television (NBC—Meet the Press—WRC-TV), the Arizona Republican was asked to comment on Kennedy's speeches in Seattle and Los Angeles attacking right-wing extremist groups. In Los Angeles Saturday, Mr. Kennedy hit out at "armed bands of civilian guerillas that are more likely to supply local vigilantes than national vigilance."

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~~Union Leader~~ Assails Birchism

"Self-righteous demagogues, some under the guise of religion, may be leading America down the road of fascism."

John G. Ramsay, director of community relations for the United Steelworkers Union, said last night at Calvary Baptist Church.

He deplored the activities of the John Birch Society which, he said, claims to be Christian, yet impugned the loyalty of former President Eisenhower.

Ramsay, president of the Capital Area United Churchmen, and an elder of National Presbyterian Church, warned that "there is more threat of fascism in America than anything I know, a fear generated by a fear of communism." He said the best answer to communism "is not anti-Communist crusades but pro-Christian crusades."

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JAN 10 1962

Sen. Stephen M. Young
(D, O.), writing in The Satur-
day Evening Post, delivers a
blistering attack on the John
Birch Society, calls it "the
most dangerous organization
in the United States today."

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Romney Rejects Birch Backers

LANSING, Mich., Jan. 25 (AP). — Automotive executive George Romney, a possible Republican candidate for the Michigan governorship this year, says he wants no indorsement by the right-wing John Birch Society.

Mr. Romney, president of American Motors Corp., described the Birch Society as being "of a reprehensible character and an unfortunate thing."

"I want nothing to do with them," he told newsmen yesterday when asked about a recent statement by Democratic State Chairman John J. (Joe) Collins.

The Collins statement failed to mention Mr. Romney by name, but in an obvious reference to the automaker it declared:

"(Regarding) the statement by a G. O. P. official that for Republicans to be John Birchers will not help them attract good candidates, let me point out that a potential G. O. P. gubernatorial nominee broke bread with an avowed John Bircher only a few days ago."

"It was publicly admitted that the two had discussed the potential candidacy of the aspirant and that the Bircher was not reluctant to proffer his indorsement on the basis that the would-be candidate was more conservative than the Bircher had thought."

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Welch Is Silent on Call To Back Up Red Charges

Associated Press

The Department of Justice has asked Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, to produce any evidence supporting his charges of Communists in government.

So far, said an official, Welch has not responded to the request made Dec. 8.

The official, Assistant Attorney General J. Walter Yeagley, chief of the Department's Internal Security Division, said yesterday that he wrote Welch about a speech Welch gave Nov. 20 in Austin, Tex.

The Assistant Attorney General said news accounts quoted Welch as referring to "a comparatively few thousand Communists concentrated in key departments" of the Government.

Yeagley said he wrote Welch, "The charges you make are not to my knowledge supported by the material in the investigative files of Government employees."

"It would be my suggestion that you turn over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation at once such facts as may be

in your possession and the sources thereof which you believe establish that certain Government employees are members of the Communist Party.

"If appropriate action is to be taken, it is necessary that such data as you indicate you possess be made available for the use of the Government." Yeagley is responsible for prosecuting anyone who falsely denied Communist Party membership for Government work.

Yeagley said neither he nor the FBI received acknowledgment of his letter to Welch.

The John Birch Society, which Welch heads, is a militantly conservative organization pledged to fight communism.

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Birch Society Is Denounced By President

By GARNETT D. HORNER
Star Staff Writer

President Kennedy says the John Birch Society is "totally alien" to the Republican as well as the Democratic Party.

The President disavowed any Democratic efforts to attach what a reporter called "such far-right radical groups" to the Republican Party at a press conference late yesterday.

In response to questions on other political and domestic matters, the President:

1. With tongue in cheek, suggested that Republican Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York may be moving to the right of Senator Goldwater of Arizona, the darling of the conservative wing of the Republican Party.

2. Said he thinks it is too early in the political life of George W. Romney, automobile manufacturer, being mentioned as a possible candidate for the Republican presidential nomination in 1964, for him to comment on some of Mr. Romney's statements.

3. Said his time schedule for putting an American on the moon by the end of this decade has not been changed by recent setbacks in the space program.

4. Urged settlement of new steel-labor contract negotiations, "the earlier the better" to avoid the danger of stockpiling in fear of a strike that might produce later unemployment.

Alien to Both Parties

A report told Mr. Kennedy that the Democratic organization has been criticized as unfairly attaching the John Birch Society to the Republican Party and asked if he felt that "such far-right radical groups properly belong in the Republican Party."

The President noted that former President Eisenhower has been as vigorous in his denunciation of the John Birch Society as I have been, and certainly it has no place in the Republican Party of President Eisenhower."

He added that he is sure that "responsible" Republicans agree it has no place in their party, and asserted: "It is totally alien to both parties."

Says People Will Decide

He also was asked if he believes former Army Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker, running for the Democratic nomination for Governor of Texas, properly belongs in the Democratic Party. Gen. Walker has said he is a member of the John Birch Society.

Mr. Kennedy said "everybody is free to run, and the people will decide, in either party."

His jibe at Gov. Rockefeller came in answering the New York Governor's charge of "political fakery" in announcing that he would name Robert C. Weaver, Negro housing and home finance agency director, to head the proposed new Cabinet Department of Urban Affairs and Housing if Congress approves its creation.

He said with a grin that he had read in a newspaper column that "nobody could get to the right of Barry Goldwater but now I am not so sure."

Mr. Kennedy also recalled that in 1956 and 1957 Gov. Rockefeller recommended to President Eisenhower the establishment of such a new cabinet department as he has now proposed to Congress. He added that Gov. Rockefeller "must have, for one reason or another, changed his point of view on it."

In regard to the Governor's

criticism of his announcement that he wanted Mr. Weaver to head the proposed new department, the President said Gov. Rockefeller "has forgotten" that former President Eisenhower let it be known that he was going to appoint Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby as the first Secretary of the Health, Education and Welfare Department the day after he submitted a reorganization plan creating that department.

He added that he was "astounded" that the Governor then forgot it was he who became her deputy."

Too Early on Romney Issue

Mr. Kennedy indicated that he thought Mr. Romney is too much of a fledgling in politics to bother answering his charge that the Kennedy administration is not doing enough for business.

"I think that we will have to wait and see what Mr. Romney's position is, or in what he is involved," the President said. "There may be a time for appropriate comment, but I think it is still too early."

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Radicals ?

Red-Inspired?

ROBERT Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, told a River Falls, Wis., audience that the World War II slogan "Make the World Safe for Democracy" may have been communist-inspired.

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THE EVENING
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Goldwater Criticizes Birch Society Leader

By the Associated Press

Senator Goldwater says conservatives must "beat off the idiots that are always attracted to a movement in its beginnings."

These people, he said in a talk here yesterday, are being attracted to the conservative movement "just as they were attracted to liberalism in the early 1930s. There are always people who will go off on a tangent if they don't think their ideas are being carried out to the letter."

The Arizona Republican addressed a joint meeting of the Harvard, Yale and Princeton Clubs. Asked later during a question period whether he was referring to the John Birch Society, he replied:

"Not necessarily. I mean any group that goes to extremes. I'm a member of the American Legion, and I can remember when it practiced some of the things we object to in the John Birch Society."

Praises Rusk, Corps

"My chief objection to the John Birch Society is its leader. He is intemperate and unwise. I wish he would step out so the fine, responsible people who are members could take charge."

The founder and head of the militantly conservative John Birch Society is Robert Welch.

Senator Goldwater, a frequent critic of the administration, had kind words for Secretary of State Rusk and the Peace Corps.

Speaking of the fears of the American people about communism, he added, "If we have a few more victories like Secretary Rusk had the other day down in South America, some of their fears can be dispelled."

Asks Tax Incentives

Last week at Punta del Este Uruguay, the foreign ministers of the Organization of American States voted to expel Fidel Castro's Cuba from the organization.

Asked about the Peace Corps, Senator Goldwater said, "I think it is going to be a good instrument. It's beginning

to remove the doubts from the doubters' minds."

Senator Goldwater called for more liberal tax incentives for businessmen so America can compete more effectively with the European Common Market.

In urging passage of an investment tax credit bill more liberal than the 8 per cent the administration is calling for, he said: "If we do not buy new machinery, if we do not automate, then we cannot compete with the foreign market."

Mr. Goldwater, who said he did not believe America should join the Common Market but should "be in a position to work with it," also urged a balanced budget and a stop to wage increases.

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THE EVENING STAR
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"Letters To The Star"

Birch Slogan ~~A8~~ L41

Robert Welch has arrived. He is now being attacked by the part-time conservatives, who in their finite wisdom advise the John Birch members to oust him.

It's natural that lesser conservatives—outside the society—should feel an envy toward the man who has done more to galvanize patriots into effective action than any other one person. It is possible they covet for their political party the contributions they think the J. B. S. is getting.

If these "conservatives" took the time to read Mr. Welch's writings, they would find he backs up his remarks with irrefutable documentation. Since the early 1950s he has written "May God Forgive Us," "The Life of John Birch," "The Politician," "American Opinion magazine," the "Blue Book" of the J. B. S. the monthly bulletins (approved by the council), etc.

By virtue of his combination of political foresight, American ingenuity, and Christian ideals, he has proved himself the most brilliant of the Right's guiding lights.

The latest sally in the get-Welch drive will also fail. Many members are adopting a new slogan:

"Robert Welch leads the John Birch ~~Society~~. We like it that way."

Dallas, Texas. Hailey Reed.
* * * *

The present near-hysterical "crusade" against the right-wingers resembles the antics of a myopic possum-hound barking up the wrong tree at a harmless domestic pussy-cat. Who have threatened to bury us—the right-wingers, or the Communists?

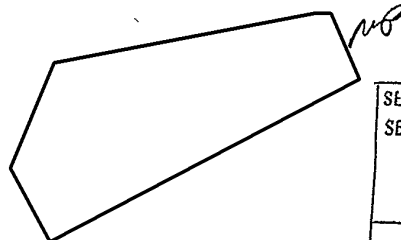
The right-wingers generally believe in preservation of our Constitution and all of its guarantees, including States' rights; the left-wingers, however, make a fetish of the First, Fourth, Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments, would like to abolish all States' rights and centralize all power in the Federal Government, which would be tantamount to socialism—only a short misstep from the abyss of communism.

Unlike the right-wingers, who are crude and work out in the open where they are obvious, the left-wingers in this Nation have cleverly penetrated our colleges, our press, our television and radio, our legal profession, our scientific and benevolent foundations, our State, county, city and Federal Governments. They are dangerous because they are extremely intelligent and have the power to spell-

bind or frighten—whichever they deem most effective—the American people into traveling down that perilous road to outright socialism.

Robert A. Mullen.

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Bircher Defends His Group

Dr. Slobodan M. Draskovich, a member of the National Advisory Council of the John Birch Society, last night told a meeting of the Arlington County Young Republicans that Chief Justice Earl Warren deserved to be impeached because "there is plenty of material to show he has failed to defend the Constitution."

He also admitted Birch founder Robert Welch had written he couldn't "escape the conclusion" that former President Eisenhower was "a conscious agent of communism."

LIVELY

Both statements were made in a lively question-and-answer session following a 40-minute speech by Dr. Draskovich.

Defending the Birch Society against various charges, he said the Society was no more secret "than others" and it did not reveal its members' names "because we are engaged in a war." He said "you can know all you need to know by reading the Society's books."

He said charges that Founder Welch's group was "dictatorial" were false because any member not in agreement with specific measures need not take part in them. He said anyone "always in conflict" with Mr. Welch should "step out" of the Society.

NOT RESPONSIBLE

He said those who criticized the Society's "way of fighting" communism should realize that its growth was not caused by Mr. Welch's techniques since Mr. Welch has "never been President or Secretary of State" and he "never went to Yalta or Potsdam."

After his remarks a questioner asked him what "positive" program the Society had. He said at present the program is educational, "to talk and talk" and achieve a unified body of opinion. When pressed, he added that all aid should stop to Yugoslavia and Poland and that our policy in Laos should be completely changed.

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Birch Society Members Address DAR Lunch

By BETTY MILES
Star Staff Writer

Representative Rousellot, a member of the John Birch Society, addressed the Daughters of the American Revolution today at an off-the-record luncheon of the 71st DAR continental congress.

The California Republican was joined as a panelist by another member of the society, T. Coleman Andrews of Richmond, former head of the Internal Revenue Service.

The luncheon at the Sheraton Park Hotel was sponsored by the DAR's National Defense Committee. It was closed to reporters.

Questions

A question and answer period was scheduled to follow the panel discussion.

The John Birch Society is a controversial, ultraconservative organization that has gained national prominence in recent years.

It was named after a fundamentalist Baptist missionary from Georgia, Capt. John Morrison Birch, who served as an intelligence officer in China during World War II and was killed by Chinese Communists on August 25, 1945, 10 days after V-J day.

The society considers him the first casualty of the Cold War.

Its founder, Robert Welch, is a retired candy manufacturer of Belmont, Mass.

DAR resolutions of recent years have consistently attacked alleged sacrifice of National sovereignty and strength through commitments to world organizations

and have called for the withdrawal of the United States from the United Nations.

The congress opens officially tonight in Constitution Hall. Mrs. Ashmead White, President General, will address the group.

This is the last year of Mrs. White's three-year term as head of the DAR.

Mrs. Robert V. H. Duncan, of Alexandria, is the uncontested candidate to succeed her. Mrs. Duncan and her associates have invited all the Congress delegates to a reception in the Mayflower ballroom tonight following the formal opening of the Congress in Constitution Hall.

Mrs. Robert P. Sweeney of the District was honored by the Historian General today for her work in promoting the DAR history medal.

A Medal

The medal, made for the exclusive use of the DAR, is given to students for excellence in history.

Mrs. F. Claggett Hoke gave to the DAR, in honor of Mrs. Sweeney, an 18th Century electrified candle lamp with a tole shade.

The presentation was made in the American room, which contains many historical documents. The latest project of the Historian General is the collection of Governors' signatures.

Also in honor of her mother, Mrs. Sweeney, Mrs. Julius Castiglione will present to the National Society a replica of the silver desk set used by the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

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Inez Robb Raps Birchers; Told to Leave Hotel

PHOENIX, Ariz., April 30 (UPI) — Syndicated writer Inez Robb said last night she was very embarrassed about being asked to leave a resort hotel for speaking out against the threat of a "far right" in the United States. Her column frequently appears in The Washington Daily News.

Mrs. Robb was asked to leave the Camelback Inn after she attacked the John Birch Society in a lunch speech and said the members of the far right were "fascists".

In the speech, before the Arizona Association of Deans of Women, she said, "those on the far right are fascists, the same as in Italy."

She said the finding of an anti-communist booklet in her room instead of a Bible prompted her off-the-cuff remarks.

The owner of the hotel, Jack Stewart, said he was very upset about the content of the speech. He said he had one of his sons ask Mrs. Robb to leave. Mr. Stewart said he has devoted a great deal of time to a program against communism.

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THE EVENING STAR
Washington, D. C., Wednesday, May 2, 1962

U. S. Chamber Is Urged To Avoid Birch Slant

By CECIL HOLLAND
Star Staff Writer

Businessmen were urged today to avoid extremism as represented in the John Birch Society in their fight on communism.

The appeal was made by speakers at a session on communism at the United States Chamber of Commerce's 50th anniversary meeting.

"There are radical extremists, left and right, who serve the purposes of the Soviet Union by making this struggle a radical struggle," Leo Cherne of New York told the delegates.

Red Aims Stressed

Mr. Cherne, the director of the Research Institute of America, was a panelist on a program on "Strengthening Freedom to Meet the Challenge of Communism."

He said one of the aims of Communist leaders is "polarization in a community" and getting groups fighting each other.

"Extremists on the right or left are radicals," said Mr. Cherne. "They are revolutionists each in his own way."

Another speaker, Dr. Frank Barnett of the Institute for

American Strategy, Chicago, took a similar view. He said quality control in the battle on communism was needed just as quality control is required in production.

Instead of setting up new organizations which have no tradition to carry on the battle against communism, Dr. Barnett said the work should be pursued through existing organizations.

Policy Action Slated

The three-day meeting of the business organization will close with a banquet tonight. Before that, the delegates were scheduled to adopt policy statements covering a wide range of subjects.

There was prospect of some disagreement over the chamber's position on elimination of trade barriers, with one group wanting more protection for American industry under the escape clause in the event tariffs are lowered.

In a new statement prepared for presentation to the dele-

gates, the chamber would be placed on record as opposing any cash subsidies for industries which might be injured by the reduction or elimination of duties.

The same statement would also have the chamber take the position that aid to displaced workers under the new trade program should be limited to unemployment relief. The statement also proposed that such relief should be administered by the States and should not exceed in amount or duration the benefits provided by State unemployment compensation laws.

Price Controls Hit

Another statement reflecting business fears, growing out of the steel price dispute also was scheduled for approval. The statement expresses the chamber's opposition to wage, price or rent controls, except in a war-like emergency.

The delegates were told at a meeting yesterday that President Kennedy's battle against

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the steel industry's price increase early last month will win votes for the administration in this year's election.

This was discussed at a session devoted to "You and the 1962 Elections." A six-man panel was asked if the steel price dispute would affect the elections this year.

C. C. Kilker of the Kansas State Chamber of Commerce, commenting that many voters are "economic illiterates," said the dispute "very clearly will win votes for the administration."

Williams Talks

Senator Williams, Democrat of New Jersey, another panelist, predicted that it would have a great impact on the congressional elections. While the President's actions were opposed by business, Senator Williams said, "As I read it back home, it was a very popular decision."

Robert G. Welch of the Steel Service Center, Cleveland, Ohio, said one result of the contro-

versy will be to bring more businessmen into politics.

The nearest to a dissent among the panelists came from Representative Wilson of California, chairman of the House Republican Campaign Committee. He said he did not believe the controversy would have much effect on the election. But he added that it had given new meaning to the initials S. O. B., and that was "Save Our Business."

Clarence B. Randall, retired steel executive, told the chamber's anniversary luncheon yesterday a lesson from the steel dispute was that American people will not take time to form their own opinions.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2/3/81 BY 60290 AUC/EG/GR

THE EVENING STAR

Page *AS* Date

MAY 8 1962

Birch Society Methods Hit by Church Group

The Middle Atlantic Conference of the United Church of Christ today passed a resolution opposing the John Birch Society and similar organizations because of their extreme methods in fighting communism.

The statement declared that the means used by these organizations "to combat communism are opposed fundamentally to individual freedom, to integrity of purpose, to the best interests of our Nation, and to the cause of world peace."

It said further that the conference "unalterably opposed the principles and methods of the Christian-Anti-Communism Crusade, the John Birch

Society, and any other organization which fosters similar principles and methods.

71 Churches Represented

The action was taken at the concluding session of the group's three-day meeting at First Congregational Church, 10th and G streets N.W.

Minister and lay delegates attended from 71 churches having 34,299 members in New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, the District of Columbia and Northern Virginia. The Washington area has 15 churches with 8,207 members.

Mrs. Ashby E. Bladen of Glen Ridge, N. J., was elected moderator of the conference. She succeeds the Rev. Robert E. Marston, minister of Christ Congregational Church, Silver Spring, Md., in the post.

Other Officers Elected

Other new officers are the Rev. C. Shelby Rooks of Princeton, N. J., associate moderator; James F. Prince of Upper Montclair, N. J., treasurer, and the Rev. James H. Ameling of Ridgefield, N. J., scribe. Mr. Rooks is a former pastor of Lincoln Congregational Temple in Washington.

Two Washington area Congregationalists were elected to the board of directors of the conference. They are John Haas of the Fairfax County (Va.) United Church of Christ and Mrs. Chester H. Hosmer of Cleveland Park Congregational Church.

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MAY 8 1962	
FBI - WASH. F. O.	

Bob Kennedy Pokes Fun At John Birch Society

By the Associated Press

Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, poking fun at the John Birch Society, took the position today that the job of ferreting out Communists is best left to the FBI and other law-enforcement agencies.

Amid laughter, he told a Democratic gathering that despite charges of wholesale Communist infiltration of Government, the Birch Society has been able to find only one "genuine Communist agent."

"That's Dwight D. Eisenhower," he said with a grin. Several times, Mr. Kennedy said, he has written Robert Welch, Birch Society leader, to name the Reds alleged to be in the State Department, Defense Department and other agencies. But he said he has never received an answer.

According to the FBI, he added, Communists in the United States number about 10,000, not counting Communist supporters. This is a matter of concern, he said, and the Justice Department is moving against the Reds.

Among other things, he said, it is fighting in the courts to get party leaders to register with the Government and disclose their finances and party secrets.

It does no good, the Attorney General noted, for "individual citizens to arm themselves with pistols and guns and go looking under beds for Communists."

Mr. Kennedy spoke to a breakfast meeting of Democratic congressional candidates from 20 States. They are here to get briefings from administration and party leaders. Mr. Kennedy devoted most of his talk to a review of the work of

his department. He said he is not going to take part in the coming campaigns.

"The President has taken me out of politics because of the kind of work I do," he said.

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JUL 20 1962	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (62-0)

DATE: 11/27/62

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b7C

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

Complainant - [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Silver

Spring, Maryland

MISCELLANEOUS

157-0-417

100-38767*

Full
~~62-0-18006~~
~~62-0-17607~~

[REDACTED] Federal Aviation Agency, Washington National Airport, WDC, who resides [REDACTED] Silver Spring, Maryland, at 10:50 a.m., 11/27/62, telephonically advised that today he received in a blank envelope at his home four pieces of material that he believed to have been mailed by someone of the John Birch Society. He said the envelope was postmarked 11/26/62, Alexandria, Virginia, at 6:30 p.m. and contained ~~three~~ reprints of articles that appeared in the "Congressional Record", a reprint of an article from the "Foreign Intelligence Digest".

[REDACTED] said the material did not contain any cover letter and that he has no idea as to how his name appeared on items of this nature being mailed to him. His reason for reporting was that to him it appeared to be methods used by the John Birch Society.

1 - WFO
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FBI - WASH. F. O.	

[Signature]

THE EVENING STAR
C/7 Date JAN 31 1963

Steady Growth Shown By John Birch Society

By ORR KELLY
Star Staff Writer

The John Birch Society grew steadily last year, making "major advances" in its program and the scope of its activities, according to a report presented today to the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

This growth came in spite of widespread attacks and in spite of a decrease in strength of other major organizations of the so-called "Radical Right," the report said.

The report was presented by Lawrence Peirez, chairman of the league's fact-finding committee, during sessions of the league's 50th annual meeting at the Sheraton Park Hotel. Tonight, the civil rights group will honor President Kennedy at a "Dinner With the President," to be broadcast over the CBS network from the hotel from 10 to 11 p.m.

Two major claims by the right-wing organizations were upheld by the league report. The society is increasing in membership (to an estimated 50,000 to 60,000 members) and the four candidates who ran as Birchites last November showed considerable strength, even though they lost, the report said.

Informative Effort

The study of the society is part of a continuing effort by the league to keep people informed about extremist groups on both the right and the left, according to Arnold Foster,

general counsel and national civil rights director for the league, who was in charge of the study.

"The John Birch Society is a serious manifestation of a kind of political hysteria," Mr. Foster said, "but in my opinion it is like a kind of pimple on an otherwise healthy body—a country that is much greater, stronger and healthier than some people realize."

"We feel that this country is healthy enough so that it need not be worried when extremist groups take full advantage of their rights to free speech and press and assembly. We don't think there should be any restriction on these freedoms."

The Birch Society apparently has established itself in all 50 States (as compared with 35 a year ago), and is showing strength in new areas, including the District of Columbia, but California is still the "banner State" with a heavy concentration of Birchites in the southern part of the State, the report said.

Cash and Staff Grow

With its increased membership, has come increase affluence, the report said. The society is now able to spend about three quarters of a million dollars a year to support a full-time staff of 38 paid organizers and a home-office staff of about 50.

Although some of the money comes in big chunks from individual wealthy donors, Mr. Foster said, much of it apparently comes from the sale of books, a magazine, and other promotional materials and from fees (ranging from \$50 to \$250) paid to society speakers who appear before school groups and civic organizations, Mr. Foster said.

In many places, the report said, there was evidence of an attempt to change the society so as "to present a more positive image to local communities . . . and to the American public as a whole."

Group Rule Stressed

Part of this effort, it said, was a tendency to play down the role of Robert Welch, the society's founder.

"Welch has not been completely silent," the report said, "but an effort has apparently been undertaken to convey the impression that the society is not being run by Welch alone, but by a group of sound, respectable men of substance and standing."

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JAN 2 1 1963

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3/7/63

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, WFO

[REDACTED]
Member of Congress

[REDACTED]
INFORMATION CONCERNING

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/13/04 BY 60294K BEG/2

ReButel call to WFO 3/7/63.

[REDACTED] Wash., D.C., residing [REDACTED]
Maryland, furnished the following information to SAs [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on 3/7/63:

[REDACTED] has been a personal friend of Congressman [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] for
approximately 25 years, both being from [REDACTED]
Congressman [REDACTED] has been a guest at [REDACTED] Maryland,
residence, and they have had lunch together on Capitol Hill.

On occasion during their get-togethers, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] has expressed his dissatisfaction with the U.S. Supreme
Court and in particular with various "liberal" decisions of the
court. [REDACTED] by letter dated 3/5/63, received from [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] a booklet entitled "Nine Men Against America, The Supreme
Court and Its Attack on American Liberties," written by ROSALIE M.
GORDON, published in 1960 by the Devin-Adair Publishing Co., NYC.
This booklet contained a forward by ROBERT WELCH, founder of the
John Birch Society.

3 - Bureau

② - WFO

(1 - 100-38767) (JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY)

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(5)

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Serialized [REDACTED]
Indexed [REDACTED]
Filed [REDACTED]

WFO

[] stated that he considered Congressman [] a loyal American and did not know whether or not the Congressman is a member of the John Birch Society. According to [] Congressman [] has publicly refused to affirm or deny membership in the John Birch Society.

[] stated that he desired to furnish the above information to the FBI, inasmuch as he felt his receiving instant booklet may be an attempt by some "right-wing" organization through Congressman [] to influence the thinking or policies of []

The above is being furnished to the Bureau for information and no further action is contemplated by WFO.

[] WFO indices contain no information identifiable with

new YORK TIMES
5-3-63

Kuchel Scores Birch Society as 'Fright Peddlers'

Attacks Right-Wing 'Zealots' in Major Senate Speech

By ANTHONY LEWIS

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 2 —

Right-wing extremists, do "devil's work far better than Communists could do," Thomas H. Kuchel of California, the Senate Republican whip, charged today.

In a Senate speech, Mr. Kuchel assailed what he termed "the fright peddlers," who imagine plots against the country and "see our Government crawling with 'Communists.'" He named the John Birch Society.

The Senator said that 10 per cent of his mail now came from right-wing "zealots" or persons under their influence. This "fright mail" usually accuses him of treason, he said, because he does not believe the wild stories told by the right-wingers.

One such story, Mr. Kuchel said, is that the Army is training African troops in Georgia, in "Operation Moccasin," to take over the country for the United Nations.

He has had many letters on this "plot," he said.

One said "there are African Negro troops, who are cannibals stationed in Georgia." Another spoke of 16,000 African soldiers, complete with nose and ear rings." Another said:

"Yes, we know of the U. N. plans to place Mongolian and Congolese troops over our dear United States."

"Water Moccasin ! ! !" another letter began. "We are asking you to give us a report on what you are doing to protect our constitutional rights. Also repeal income taxes."

In fact, Mr. Kuchel said, Operation Water Moccasin was an Army training exercise in counter-guerrilla warfare. It was witnessed by 124 foreign military officers—from Canada, Taiwan, France, Britain and other lands, including one African country, Liberia.

Mr. Kuchel quoted from an editorial in The Claxton (Ga.) Enterprise. It had heard some of the same charges about Operation Water Moccasin and concluded they were "hysteria, the result of a sick mind, carried



Associated Press Wirephoto

Senator Thomas H. Kuchel before his speech yesterday.

away by self-induced hallucination."

Other letters he receives, the Senator said, say that thousands of Chinese troops are in Mexico, poised for an attack on California. Others name various Americans and allied leaders as Communists — 44 in all, the Senator counted.

"It is disgusting," Mr. Kuchel said, "to find self-appointed saviors, whether infantile or cunning, preying profitably and psychotically on the fears of Americans in the name of anti-Communism."

He said that some of the wild stories originating from a Rev. Mr. Theodore Jackman, a speaker sent out by the John Birch Society. He said that the society's "major contribution to the security and welfare of the United States was to 'unmask' Dwight Eisenhower as a traitor."

One lunatic leaflet he gets, the Senator said, charges that the armed forces will be turned over to a Soviet colonel at the

Says They Do 'Devil's Work Better Than Communists'

United Nations. He said the charge originated from a play written in the 1950's in Hollywood.

Mr. Kuchel quoted from a newspaper saying that former Representative John Rousselot had repeated the Soviet colonel story in a speech in March. Mr. Rousselot, a California Republican and Birch Society member, was defeated in 1962.

Rousselot Under Attack

"When one who was honored to be a member of Congress for two years—even one who writes for an undisguised hate sheet—utters such a cry," the Senator said, "there are people who listen and believe."

"The curious fact is that the fright peddlers, from the simple simpletons to the wretched racists, all claim to be conservatives."

"They defile the honorable philosophy of conservatism with that claim as thoroughly as the Communists defile the honorable philosophy of liberalism," Mr. Kuchel said continuing:

"I have nothing but contempt for the originators of the hoaxes and swindles, from the ludicrous leaders of the Birch Society to any and all of the several hundred similar self-styled 'patriotic' groups."

"They are anything but patriotic. Indeed, a good case can be made that they are unpatriotic, and downright un-American."

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Resurgent Right

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The John Birch Society and other extremist groups no longer can be dismissed simply as cranks. As the series in this newspaper by Julius Düscha documents, the Birchites and their fellow-travelers are concentrating their campaign of fanaticism in the sparsely-settled Mountain States. Their strategy is to use every device of propaganda and intimidation in areas where a few votes can swing an election. And in the process they are sowing distrust for all American institutions—schools, courts and government, state and local—in a manner that a dedicated Communist would surely applaud.

Relentless publicity is one antidote to the Birchite poison. It is quite one thing for a group of Americans to advance a dissenting position, using legitimate means of advocacy. But is quite another to employ libelous name-calling of a kind that matches Communist tactics in virulence. The saddest consequence of the extremist campaign, as recounted by Mr. Düscha, is that moderate community leaders are afraid to take issue with the Birchites because of the anonymous phone calls and slanderous attacks that result.

Pick up the rocks anywhere in the country and some strange creatures are bound to be there. What is especially disquieting in the Mountain States is that some Americans who should know better are lending comfort to the night crawlers and Know-Nothings.

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MAY 22 1963	
FBI - WASH. F. O.	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, WFO (62-0)

DATE: 5/23/63

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: SCOTT STANLEY, JR.;
[REDACTED]
MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION CONCERNING

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/13/01 BY 6090AUC/EF/6L

On 5/17/63, SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] contacted [REDACTED] Motor Inn, 12th and K Streets, N.W., who exhibited a folio which had been found in the lobby of the Motor Inn which also acts as a Dulles Airport downtown terminal.

This folio contained a group of letters to SCOTT STANLEY, JR., Managing Editor of American Opinion, Belmont, Massachusetts and copies of letters from SCOTT STANLEY, JR. to [REDACTED] Wichita, Kansas. The material also contained proof of an article or speech which contained an ultraconservative political viewpoint.

SA [REDACTED] advised that SCOTT STANLEY, JR. [REDACTED] was now active in the John Birch Society. It is also known to SA [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] is [REDACTED] of the John Birch Society in Kansas.

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MAY 23 1963	
FBI - WASH. F. O.	

UNION GETS VIEWS OF BIRCH SOCIETY

Reception Cool for Leader
of Group in Colorado

By WALLACE TURNER

Special to The New York Times

PUEBLO, Colo., June 20 — The Colorado coordinator of the John Birch Society made a presentation of his organization's aims and purposes before a labor union audience here last night.

Don Vondra of Boulder, Colo., was invited to the meeting of Local 12 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. After he had arrived, members' criticism of the invitation almost brought about a cancellation. Mr. Vondra was allowed an hour.

He said that this was the first time the Birch Society had presented its views to a labor union meeting. He said the society was not attempting to recruit union men as members.

From the questions asked of Mr. Vondra, it seemed that the union members wanted to learn about the Birch Society so as to resist its purposes. They did not seem to be interested in joining.

Welch Explains Aims

Mr. Vondra used about 30 minutes time showing a film of Robert H. W. Welch Jr., the founder of the Birch Society, who explained some of the purposes and history of the organization.

In the question period, Mr. Vondra was treated politely. In general the questions had a hostile tone.

"The laboring man is not anti-American," Mr. Vondra told the union electricians before he showed Welch's film. "He wants the same thing and is dedicated to the same purposes as the rest of us."

Immediately after the film, Mr. Vondra was asked what were the evil forces Mr. Welch had spoken of in the film? Among them, Mr. Vondra answered, are Communists, Fabian Socialists, and the Keynesian Socialists.

"We feel they are an alien force to this nation," he said. Was Mr. Welch once president of the National Association of Manufacturers? No, but he was an officer. Are the Birch Society leaders Republicans? Mr. Vondra first said he supposed they were, then said he did not know. He ended by saying he imagined they might be. He said he was a Democrat.

May Help Conservatives

He denied that the society sponsors political candidates. He suggested, however, that the society's encouraging of its members to take part in politics might benefit the conservative politician since the membership is conservative.

Mr. Vondra was asked about the society's views on organized labor.

"I don't know," he said. "We have said nothing about organ-

ized labor, except when we have opposed unions that were taken over by the Communists."

It was suggested that the Birch Society is made up of conservatives who help pass anti-labor laws.

"I used to be all for unions but I don't like coercion either by management or labor," said Mr. Vondra. "You men are selling a commodity — your labor — and if you want to band together to get more money, I'm all for it. But you don't want the union to become something big that you have to fight."

At one point he denounced the Federal Social Security program.

He said the society wants to impeach Chief Justice Earl Warren because "we feel he is guilty of misconduct in office." He also said that the Birch Society opposes the United Nations because "we feel it was constructed by Communists as a means of getting world control."

Of Secretary General U Thant, Mr. Vondra said that "he is an avowed Marxist and the only difference with Communists is when you apply the gun."

When his presentation had ended, Mr. Vondra folded up his projection equipment, with the help of William Vickers, a root beer stand operator who is the Birch Society section leader here. There seemed to be no indication of interest in membership from the union group.

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JUN 21 1963	

JUN 27 1963

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2/6/84 BY 60904UCS/ELR

CONSERVATIVE FLEET

Birch Bookmobile Cruises D. C. Area

By BRIAN KELLY
Star Staff Writer

The John Birch Society has launched a small fleet of bookmobiles, one of which cruises the Washington area with wares for conservative-minded readers.

For three months the local "mobile unit" has visited meeting places of conservative study groups or assemblies in Northern Virginia, nearby Maryland and the New Frontier bastion of Washington itself.

The vehicle is one of several bookmobiles operating in the Nation under the supervision of the Birch Society's American Opinion Library program, according to a society spokesman at national headquarters in Belmont, Mass.

The small beige vans bear blue lettering proclaiming them to be American Opinion Library's "bookstores on wheels."

However, the local unit and its sister vehicles are not always operated or supported

by John Birch members alone, it appears. Nor are their books confined to Birchist literature exclusively.

From his office in Belmont, Mass., Richard N. Ober, business manager for Robert Welch, Inc., told The Star the bookmobiles are a part of the American Opinion Library program, which, in turn, is "operated" by the John Birch Society.

Mr. Ober, who works for Robert H. W. Welch, Jr., said the library program has been under way and gathering momentum for two years. It is named for the magazine, American Opinion, edited by Mr. Welch, the founder of the conservative organization.

There's no secret about the educational effort, Mr. Ober said, except that the number of bookmobiles cannot be divulged because of "business" reasons. However, he confirmed that a second van operates in

See BIRCH, Page A-6

Continued From Page A-1

the Baltimore area, and indicated the others along the East Coast.

It was a group of conservative Virginians who brought one of these vans to the Washington area.

The bookmobile operating here belongs, actually, to the American Opinion Library, Inc., of Richmond, whose president, Crawley F. Joyner III, claims Birch membership.

According to Mr. Joyner, a Richmond real estate man, about half of the volunteers connected with the book store are Birch Society members.

Vice president of the Richmond group is Basil M. DeLashmutter of 3424 North Venice avenue, Arlington, son of the late chairman of the Arlington County Board.

Mr. DeLashmutter, a 24-year-old contractor and conservative Democrat, says he is not a member of the Birch Society. The bookmobile, he feels, "is not a function of the JB Society."

Rather, it represents "more or less a conservative expression," he says.

According to Mr. DeLashmutter, the bookmobile drew volunteer drivers from Young Republican ranks in Washington and visited a few conservative groups in the area while it was in his charge for a few weeks.

More recently, Logan A. McKee, Jr., of 9406 Mintwood street, Silver Spring, Md., former senior planner for the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, took over operation of the bookmobile, according to Mr. Joyner and Mr. DeLashmutter.

However, Mr. McKee reported, the van recently has been shifted to Harman Harding, of 3356 M street N.W., an aviation underwriter in a local insurance office.

According to Mr. DeLashmutter, the bookmobile carries samples of some 200 titles that can be ordered through the American Opinion Library. Most are conservative books, such as "A Program for Conservatives," by Senator John Tower, Republican of Texas. Other offerings include J. Edgar Hoover's studies on domestic communism and

Allen Drury's novel, "A Shade of Difference."

The greatest response here, said Mr. DeLashmutter, has been to books in the educational and historical field, with surprising emphasis on the McGuffey's Readers for grade-schoolers.

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DEC 19 1963
FBI - WASH. F. O.

WASHINGTON POST
Section A, page 17
Monday
December 16, 1963

C8 Wednesday, Feb. 12, 1964 THE WASHINGTON POST

Birch Tract Links JFK and Red Plot

NEW YORK, Feb. 11 (UPI) — The assassination was arranged by the Communist conspiracy to prepare for "a domestic takeover" which was frustrated by the capture of Lee Harvey Oswald, the alleged assassin.

An article in a John Birch Society publication today attacked the late President Kennedy and said he may have been assassinated because he was falling behind in the Communist timetable for the takeover of the United States.

The article in the current issue of the monthly publication American Opinion charged that Mr. Kennedy did much for the Communist conspiracy but "was rapidly becoming a political liability."

The article said "some competent observers" had concluded that the Communists had set 1963 as the date for the "effective capture of the United States" and Mr. Kennedy had fallen behind.

The article, written by Prof. Revilo P. Oliver, of the Classics Department at the University of Illinois, suggested that

(In Champaign, Ill., a University of Illinois spokesman said school officials wanted to read the article before making any decisions about either the story or its author.)

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FEB 12 1964	
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-12-64

THE EVENING STAR
Page **A4** Date

FEB 11 1964

Bircher Says Kennedy Plotted to Subvert U. S.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11 (AP).

A John Birch Society's publication contains an article in its current issue saying that as long as there are Americans, President Kennedy's "memory will be cherished with distaste."

It speculates on the possibility they "will curse him" some day. Robert Welch, Jr., founder of the ultrarightist society and editor of the publication, The American Opinion, described the article as "super commentary."

The article appears under the name of Revillo P. Oliver, professor of classics at the University of Illinois. He is a member of the Birch Society's national commission.

Mr. Oliver wrote that the late President Kennedy:

"Procured his election by peddling boob-bait to the suckers."

Supported the Central Intel-

ligence Agency in "a fake 'invasion' of Cuba designed to strengthen our mortal enemies there."

Collaborated with Soviet Premier Khrushchev in a "phony 'embargo' " to provide a cover for transfer of Soviet troops and weapons to Cuba to use against the United States.

Arranged to subvert and sabotage this Nation's defenses. Did much for "the Communist conspiracy" but was falling behind a scheduled date for the "effective capture of the United States" in 1963, and was "rapidly becoming a political liability."

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FEB 11 1964	
FBI - WASH. F. O.	

1964

Line Up Opposition to Rights Bill

Birchers Are Busy

By JACK STEELE

Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

The John Birch Society is leading a parade of ultra right-wing groups trying to stir up opposition to the civil rights bill, it was learned today.

Robert Welch, the Society's founder and leader, often has insisted in the past he is neither "anti-Negro" nor in favor of "legal" segregation.

But the Society's monthly organ American Opinion — which Mr. Welch edits—now is peddling for \$1 each so-called "civil rights kits" which assail the civil rights bill and charge that agitation for desegregation is a "communist plot."

LOBBY DRIVE

Furthermore, the Birch Society apparently is working closely with the Co-ordinating Committee on Fundamental American Freedoms, which is directing the lobbying drive against the bill, and other right-wing groups seeking to stir up sentiment against it.

The American Opinion kits are entitled: "The truth about civil rights (the communist program)" and are being pushed with this come-on: "Now, in one packet, the whole story of how the communists plan to turn racial strife into civil war."

The kits are being plugged in a series of identical newspaper ads assailing the civil rights bill and appearing in papers

across the country, from New Jersey and Alabama to California. Each is ostensibly sponsored by a local "Committee to Preserve the American Republic."

"DANGERS"

The ads advise readers seeking more information about the "dangers" of the civil rights bill to write to the Committee for Fundamental American Freedoms or send \$1 for a kit to American Opinion, Belmont, Mass."

The kits contain six anti-civil rights pamphlets, some reprinted from recent issues of American Opinion. They include "a letter to the South about segregation" written by Mr. Welch himself and a copy of the Mississippi Legislative Committee's report blaming the Justice Department for the 1962 violence at "Ole Miss."

The Society also is sending out copies of an anti-civil rights pamphlet written by its West Coast director, former Rep. John Rousselot (R., Calif.) entitled: "Civil Rights—Communist Betrayal of a Good Cause."

Two members of the Society's National Committee are running their own crusades against the civil rights bill.

One is Clarence E. Manion, former dean of the Notre Dame Law School, who has devoted at least three recent Radio-TV programs of his "Manion Forum" to attacks on the bill.

A telegram recently sent out by Manion supporters in Texas solicited "personal or corporate" checks for \$50 to \$500 to continue and expand these anti-civil rights broadcasts. The telegrams said in part:

"Civil rights bill most insidious threat to American freedoms ever introduced in Congress... Manion Forum warning millions this threat over 325 Radio-TV stations in-

cluding 23 in Texas. Urgently need your help for expansion broadcast coverage in crucial weeks ahead."

OTHER BLASTERS

Among those who have blasted civil rights bill on "Manion Forum" are Loyd Wright, former president of the American Bar Ass'n, and Reps. Louis Wyman (R., N. H.) and August Johansen (R., Mich.), both of whom voted against it in the House.

Former Internal Revenue Commissioner T. Coleman Andrews, another Society big wheel, also has written a blast at the civil rights bill, which is being distributed by the Committee for Fundamental American Freedoms.

Recent articles in American Opinion attacking Negro leaders Martin Luther King and Ralph Bunche were written by James Lucier, associate editor of the Richmond News-Leader. The paper's editor, James Jackson Kilpatrick, is an official of the Committee on Fundamental American freedoms.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/13/84 BY 60241AUC/BEE/GUR

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JUN 1964	
F. C.	

Wash. Daily News

Page - 2 Date - 4-4-64

EAR TO THE GROUND: WASHINGTON

Birch Bark

By George Clifford and Tom Kelly

THE John Birch Society is trying to persuade the public that it is as lovable as a Boy Scout with a lisp.

It is, in departure from its old technique of super stealth, also trying to recruit members openly.

A major persuader is G. Edward Griffin, a young "Gee whiz, Sir" salesman with a charm as transparent as a cellophane toupee.

Mr. Griffin, just plain Ed, was the winner of a national high school oratory contest in 1947, when he was 15. He is now an "official spokesman" for the John Birch Society. The Birchers have gotten a reputation for being both sinister and looney, and there are strong indications that the assassination of President Kennedy had a diminishing effect on both the Society's income and membership growth.

The problem is a delicate one: How to appear genial and rational without abandoning the essential point of view that practically everybody is either a communist or a communist dupe.

Mr. Griffin's technique is to chuckle often, speak mildly and attribute all criticism of the Birchers to the Communist Party.

At a \$2-a-head lecture here the other night he introduced one of the more famous Birch pronouncements by saying he sup-

posed he would (ha ha) be asked if Birch founder Robert Welch had really said President Eisenhower was a communist.

His "ha ha" manner could have discouraged everyone from actually asking the question but, as a matter of fact, one man did.

Ed said that people had circulated "half-truths" about Mr. Welch and everyone knows how dangerous those are. Mr. Welch had examined the Eisenhower record, Ed said gently, and had reached the conclusion that President Eisenhower was a communist agent, or a political opportunist doing the communist bidding, or a fool. Mr. Welch favored the first explanation himself, Ed said, but he didn't mind if other people favored either of the other two.

The aim seems to be to make the Birch bark appear less dangerous than the Birch bite—make any wild charge but say the words softly and don't growl.

The Society apparently is suffering for members and Ed seems to be trying to appeal to the unconverted. But the unconverted don't seem to be listening. At the Washington lecture a large part of the small audience seemed more rabid than Ed.

The impression was that most of the recruits have been hanging around the barracks for years.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
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SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 15 1964	

BOSTON PRELATE REPORTS HOAX

Cardinal Admits Error on Birchites

BOSTON, April 24 (UPI)—Richard Cardinal Cushing, who Monday bitterly denounced the John Birch Society, yesterday sent it his "good wishes" and said he had been the victim of a hoax.

The mix-up began Sunday when the Cardinal received a telegram asking him to comment on statements alleged to have been made by two Birch Society members.

The members were reported to have said Cardinal Cushing agreed with them that both Presidents Kennedy and Franklin Roosevelt were communists.

Cardinal Cushing, a personal friend of the Kennedy family, issued a scathing denunciation of the Society the following day and withdrew his earlier endorsement of Society founder Robert Welch and the organization.

UNJUSTIFIED

In a letter yesterday to an official of the society, the Catholic prelate said some of the statements he had made against the Society were "unjustified."

But the Cardinal left unanswered which of the statements he thought were justified and which were not. It was not clear if he still endorsed the organization.

Cardinal Cushing wrote Thom-

as J. Davis of Stamford, Conn.: "And with my regret at the temporary worry caused many good people by the hoax perpetrated on me, I send you and your association all good wishes and kind regard."

HOAX TELEGRAMS

The Cardinal said he received a telegram Sunday stating two members of the Birch Society had told a radio audience he "agreed with them that the late President Roosevelt and Kennedy were communists."

Later the Cardinal said he discovered the statement never had been made by Birch members.

The Pilot, a weekly newspaper published by the Archdiocese, said, "The message from New York, purporting to be a news inquiry, was signed by Gretchen Van Huessen, who described herself as a correspondent for Swiss and Italian news services."

"Investigation has failed to produce any such person at the given address or any other," the Pilot said.

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FBI - WASH. F. O.	

New YORK TIMES
6-21-63

UNION GETS VIEWS OF BIRCH SOCIETY

Reception Cool for Leader
of Group in Colorado

By WALLACE TURNER

Special to The New York Times

PUEBLO, Colo., June 20 —

The Colorado coordinator of the John Birch Society made a presentation of his organization's aims and purposes before a labor union audience here last night.

Don Vondra of Boulder, Colo., was invited to the meeting of Local 12 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. After he had arrived, members' criticism of the invitation almost brought about a cancellation. Mr. Vondra was allowed an hour.

He said that this was the first time the Birch Society had presented its views to a labor union meeting. He said the society was not attempting to recruit union men as members.

From the questions asked of Mr. Vondra, it seemed that the union members wanted to learn about the Birch Society so as to resist its purposes. They did not seem to be interested in joining.

Welch Explains Aims

Mr. Vondra used about 30 minutes time showing a film of Robert H. W. Welch Jr., the founder of the Birch Society, who explained some of the purposes and history of the organization.

In the question period, Mr. Vondra was treated politely. In general the questions had a hostile tone.

"The laboring man is not anti-American," Mr. Vondra told the union electricians before he showed Welch's film. "He wants the same thing and is dedicated to the same purposes as the rest of us."

Immediately after the film, Mr. Vondra was asked what were the evil forces Mr. Welch had spoken of in the film? Among them, Mr. Vondra answered, are Communists, Fabian Socialists, and the Keynesian Socialists.

"We feel they are an alien force to this nation," he said.

Was Mr. Welch once president of the National Association of Manufacturers? No, but he was an officer. Are the Birch Society leaders Republicans? Mr. Vondra first said he supposed they were, then said he did not know. He ended by saying he imagined they might be. He said he was a Democrat.

May Help Conservatives

He denied that the society sponsors political candidates. He suggested, however, that the society's encouraging of its members to take part in politics might benefit the conservative politician since the membership is conservative.

Mr. Vondra was asked about the society's views on organized labor.

"I don't know," he said. "We have said nothing about rgan-

ized labor, except when we have opposed unions that were taken over by the Communists."

It was suggested that the Birch Society is made up of conservatives who help pass anti-labor laws.

"I used to be all for unions but I don't like coercion either by management or labor," said Mr. Vondra. "You men are selling a commodity — your labor — and if you want to band together to get more money, I'm all for it. But you don't want the union to become something big that you have to fight."

At one point he denounced the Federal Social Security program.

He said the society wants to impeach Chief Justice Earl Warren because "we feel he is guilty of misconduct in office." He also said that the Birch Society opposes the United Nations because "we feel it was constructed by Communists as a means of getting world control."

Of Secretary General U. Thant, Mr. Vondra said that "he is an avowed Marxist and the only difference with Communists is when you apply the gun."

When his presentation had ended, Mr. Vondra folded up his projection equipment, with the help of William Vickers, a root beer stand operator who is the Birch Society section leader here. There seemed to be no indication of interest in membership from the union group.

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1963 JUN 21

Birchers side with South, union says

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — The kit is entitled, "The Truth About Civil Rights (The Communist Program)." The AFL-CIO has charged that a close link exists between the extremist John Birch Society and the Coordinating Committee on Fundamental American Freedoms, which is waging a nationwide war against the Civil Rights Bill.

A series of identical anti-civil rights newspaper ads throughout the nation, placed by the Coordinating Committee using local front group names, advises readers to send \$1 for a kit exposing the "dangers" of civil rights to American Opinion, Belmont, Mass.

American Opinion is a monthly magazine of the Birch Society, and Belmont is the society's national headquarters.

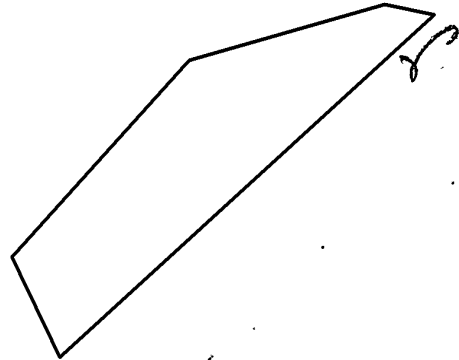
The Birch kit, according to the AFL-CIO Committee for Political Education, charges efforts to promote civil rights are part of a "Communist plot."

The kit is entitled, "The Truth About Civil Rights (The Communist Program)."

In the kit are six anti-civil rights pamphlets which, according to the Birch Society, reveal "the whole story of how the Communists plan to turn racial strife into civil war."

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[Signature]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, WFO (100-38767)

DATE: 12/9/64

FROM : CLERK

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SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING

At 10:01am, instant, a male who did not furnish his identity called WFO and stated he desired to ask a question about the John Birch Society. He advised he was planning to join this society, and he wondered whether the FBI considers the society subversive or whether it is on a "subversive list."

Caller was advised FBI does not make clearances on any organization and that we would be unable to make a statement. Caller was advised of the availability of list of organizations cited by the AG through the Department.

This is to record caller's call.

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BIRCHERS OPEN OFFICE

It Was Suite and Light Here

Reed Benson is trying to put a cheery face on the John Birch Society.

The Society still wants to impeach Earl Warren, dissolve the United Nations and flush out communists, but Mr. Benson makes these grim pronouncements with disarming grace.

As the Birch Society's new regional director here, Mr. Benson presided yesterday at the christening (with fruit punch) of a suite of offices at 1028 Connecticut-av nw.

He smiled constantly, crinkling narrow little lines around his eyes. He spoke earnestly and steadily of Birch Society aims.

FORMER SECRETARY

Mr. Benson's father, Ezra Taft Benson, was President Eisenhower's Secretary of Agriculture. The younger Benson (37) was asked:

Do you agree with Robert Welch, founder of the Birch Society, that President Eisenhower was a "conscious agent" of the communists?

"Well," Mr. Benson replied—smiling, skirting a direct answer—"that (relaxing of East-West tensions) was basically a tragic page in history... It was multiplied by President Kennedy and is being compounded by President Johnson."

Do you consider President Johnson a traitor?

"We've been giving aid and comfort to the enemy which, under the definitions of the

Constitution, is treasonous." Mr. Benson was referring to foreign aid and the cultural exchange programs that have included the Soviet Union.

JUST IGNORANT

"Perhaps," he said "Eisenhower and Johnson are not traitors, just ignorant."

"But what difference does it make if your house is burned down by an ignorant man or an arsonist. It's still burned down."

Mr. Benson said the Connecticut-avenue office

primarily will be an outlet for Birch Society educational materials. However, he has registered as a Capitol Hill lobbyist, just in case.

The office is decorated in 20th Century colonial style, with appropriately patriotic symbols all around.

There's a flag, copies of the Declaration of Independence, a hand-stitched sampler that says "In God We Trust," and a very large wooden eagle with pink-tipped wing feathers.



Mr. Benson in the new office.

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THE WASH. POST & TIMES HERALD.

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SERIALIZED <i>lap</i>	FILED <i>lap</i>
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Story 'Proud' to Be in Birch Society

William J. Story, the candidate for governor on the Virginia Conservative party ticket, said yesterday that he is "a proud member" of the John Birch Society.

Story made this statement when asked yesterday on a television program if he belonged to the extreme right-wing organization.

"I'm a member because I believe the John Birch Society is trying to stop the Communist domination of the world and I'm anxious to do that," Story said.

An assistant superintendent of schools in Chesapeake, Va., Story said that he joined the society because it is "educating

the people . . . about how they (Communists) infiltrate, how they get things done. That's important."

Story said that while he does not think there are any Communists in Virginia's government, he believes the "idea" of communism is a "menace" to the state.

Asked if he agreed with the charge by Birch Society founder Robert Welch that former President Eisenhower was a Communist, Story said he had no reason to think this is "true."

However, he said he thought it was "a mistake" for the former President to have invit-

ed Premier Khrushchev to the United States.

Story, an opponent of racial integration, refused to join the two major party candidates for governor—Republican A. Linwood Holton and Democrat Mills E. Godwin—in denouncing the Ku-Klux Klan.

He explained that he had never attended a Klan meeting and added that "I don't know anything about what they're trying to do."

"I do not intend to sit in judgment on the righteousness of the various organizations in Virginia."

Story made these comments on WTOP-TV's program "City Side."

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Birch Gain In East Is Reported

Society's N.Y. Fete
Attended by 1200

By Flora Lewis
Washington Post Staff Writer

NEW YORK, Oct. 9—The John Birch Society celebrated its seventh birthday here tonight with American flags and red, white and blue bunting for the occasion.

Places were set for 1200 people, who paid \$50 each for a \$10 dinner of fruit cup, consomme, roast beef, salad and "anniversary ice cream cake." The difference, they were told, "will go to further the current expansion program of the Society in this region."

Before the dinner, the Society's founder, Robert Welch, told a press conference that membership in the northeast area had advanced phenomenally in the last couple of years.

Reports Gains in N.J.

"A year and a half ago," he said, "we had three chapters in New Jersey. Then we got a top-quality coordinator there and now we have a hundred."

Welch said there had been a similar jump of Birchers in New York.

The pretty young women who served as hostesses refused to say how many members were in their particular Birch chapters. But they echoed Welch, who said all chapters have 15 to 20 members.

None of those who turned up for the birthday dinner in Welch's honor wore tennis shoes. Most seemed to be in their thirties or forties. The men appeared to outnumber the women by at least two to one.

Pastor's Invocation

An invocation opening the dinner called on "Almighty God . . . (to) forgive our Government officials for their lack of discernment and for their moral softness whereby they make a virtue of appeasement and boast of accommodation and convergence with the most diabolical enemy of mankind in history.

"Forgive us, Almighty God," it continued, "for being entranced with the illusive sirens of security and prosperity at a time when the criminal Communist conspiracy threatens to destroy, both from without and from within, even our very existence as free men."

It was delivered by the Rev. Ivan Weiser, assistant minister of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Fairfield, Conn.

A Catholic priest introduced the guests of honor and a Baptist pastor gave the benediction.

Talks on Red Infiltration

At the press conference, Welch singled out the Protestant clergy as the one national institution where Communists had, he claimed, surpassed the three per cent threshold of infiltration, "which is all they need for control. With three per cent they can take over."

"Communists have under two per cent in the Government, and between one and two per cent in the press," Welch said.

Asked to define a Communist, he said, "I don't mean card-carriers. That's reserved for bums and beatniks. Communism is always imposed from the top down by a conspiratorial gang of criminals who usually wear striped pants and top hats."

Calls Civil Rights 'Fraud'

Welch spoke fluently, with a vocabulary well peppered with such tough phrases as "the civil rights fraud, that's what we call the civil rights movement," and "institutions of higher learning (sic)—like Harvard, MIT, Wellesley" and "Communist terrorism of Negroes in the South to make them ask for civil rights" and "smears by left-wingers" (his answer to criticism of the John Birch Society).

But he deftly ducked all specific controversial questions.

"Do you think President Johnson is soft on Communism?" he was asked. In his lengthy answer he talked about evidence of widespread "Communist influence in our Government" without mentioning the President or any other official or department.

"Do you still believe President Eisenhower committed treason as you said in your book 'The Politician'?" he was asked. Welch complained that no newspaper had ever reviewed the book and offered to send a free copy if any of the reporters present could not afford its price of one dollar.

He brushed off the Ku Klux Klan, which he said "quite possibly has some Communists," as a splintered outfit of "only 8000 to 9000 members. We have around 80,000." But to charges of trying to infiltrate and gain control of the Republican Party, he answered, "We never commit petty larceny."

The Birchers laughed appreciatively. They had a rousing party.

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OCT 10 1965

FBI WASH. F. O.

THE WASH. POST & TIMES HERALD

Page A15

Date 10/10/65

Birchers Draw Answering Fire

By Jack Anderson

The Republican broadside against the John Birch Society is merely the return fire upon those patriots of the



Anderson

soapbox, who hit responsible conservatives while claiming to aim at the Communists.

This column has seen the confidential minutes of a typical John Birch meeting,

at which ritual denunciations of the Communists were heard. But the most scathing attack was made not upon the Communists but upon the conservatives, who refuse to swallow extremist John Birch doctrine.

The featured speaker was Scott Stanley, editor of American Opinion, the Society's official magazine, who has a reputation as a spellbinder on the stump.

"The stupidity," he said, "of the conservative majority being pushed around by the liberals is beyond my comprehension."

Then he lashed into former President Eisenhower, whom he accused of removing "less than 150 security risks" from the State Department.

Most of these, he declared contemptuously, were reinstated in their old jobs or transferred to other positions.

Stanley claimed that Ike had left the State Department crawling with 800 Communists and security risks.

He didn't mention that Ike had given the housecleaning job at the State Department to one of the late Sen. Joe McCarthy's henchmen, Scott McLeod, who, after hunting in all the cracks and corners in the State Department, admitted to a Senate committee that he had been unable to find a single Communist.

Relief for Banks

This column reported recently on the efforts of Rep. Thomas Ashley (D-Ohio) to ram through special legislation that would virtually exempt banks from antitrust laws.

His bill would grant retroactive immunity to three big bank combines, including Manufacturers Hanover Trust of New York City, whose merger was declared illegal last March by a U.S. District Court.

Ashley managed to force a hearing on his bill over the opposition of House Banking Chairman Wright Patman (D-Tex).

Voting with Ashley were Republicans Brock (Tenn.), Clawson (Calif.), Dwyer (N.J.), Fino (N.J.), Halpern (N.Y.), Harvey (Mich.), Johnson, (Pa.), Mize, (Kan.), Stan-ton, (Ohio), Talcott, (Calif.)

They were joined by Demo-sport, recreation, education or crats Cabell, (Tex.), Gettys, (S.C.), Grabowski, (Conn.), Hansen, (Iowa), Ottinger (N.Y.) and St. Germain, (R.I.) and Widnall (N.J.).

After the vote, Patman commented privately: "When the Justice Department stepped on the toes of the country's fourth largest bank (Manufacturers Hanover), the roar let out by Wall Street was heard in every congressional district. The bank's lawyers didn't even file a motion for appeal. Instead, they rushed to Congress for this 'extreme and unprecedented relief.'"

Firearm Champion

One of the most outspoken opponents of the Dodd bill, which would restrict the free sale of firearms to criminals, mental patients and juveniles, has been Rep. Robert L. F. Sikes (D-Fla.).

He is also a part-time major general, who won his stars fighting for Army appropriations on Capitol Hill.

Sikes has long been championing the right of everyone, fools and imbeciles included, to buy weapons, free of Government regulation. A few weeks before President Kennedy was gunned down, Sikes actually tacked an amendment to the Arms Control Act, prohibiting any interference with "the acquisition, possession, or use of firearms by an individual for the lawful purpose of personal defense,

training.

Not long afterward, he was fined \$50 for using his own firearms for unlawful purposes. He pleaded guilty to the charge of hunting turkey over a baited field in Chatom, Ala.

More recently, Sikes has been leading the battle against the bill, introduced by Sen. Thomas Dodd (D-Conn.), to stop the unrestricted traffic in foreign-made and military-surplus firearms.

Testifying before both the Senate and House hearings, Sikes accused President Johnson and Sen. Dodd of going off "half cocked" with their gun proposals and warned that their legislation would violate states' rights.

However, the Senate report on gun legislation, still in confidential draft form, points out that state laws are inadequate to curb the underworld gun traffic.

"The Massachusetts State Police," declared the Senate report, "have traced 87 per cent of the concealable firearms used in crimes in Massachusetts to out-of-state purchases."

The confidential report also discloses: "In gun murders involving emotional provocation, it is apparent that if the gun were not available on the spur of the moment, many such murders could well have ended in assault."

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THE WASH. POST & TIMES HERALD

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OCT 11 1965	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, WFO (100-38767)

DATE: 10/21/65

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING

[REDACTED] telephonically advised that he is connected with the [REDACTED] in Manassas, Virginia, and that several members of his group have attended meetings of the John Birch Society. [REDACTED] feels that this is a bad organization. He stated that he had read in the "Blue Book" that the leader of the John Birch Society considers that "democracy is a fraud."

[REDACTED] had no specific information to furnish other than to state that he was in opposition to the John Birch Society. He also indicated that he was employed by the Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C.

For information.

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Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

THE EVENING STAR
Page B-1 Date 17-3-65

Birchite Welch To Speak Friday

Robert Welch, founder and leader of the John Birch Society, will speak at 8 p.m. Friday in Howard University's Crampton Auditorium, 6th and Fairmont Streets NW. A question-and-answer period will follow his talk.

Welch's appearance is being sponsored by the Project Awareness Committee of the Student Council of the College of Liberal Arts.

This committee has brought a number of controversial speakers to the campus, including Madame Nhu, Norman Thomas and the late Malcolm X, to enable students to hear their views and ask questions.

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The Washington Post
ROBERT WELCH
 "not far right"

Welch Denies Birch Soci It Keeps the Peo

The Sheraton Park Hotel
 The ball will be held
 Monday, Murphy said.
 ernative plan to present to
 could try to develop an al-
 entatives told Murphy they
 The hospital's legal repre-
 it is being given.
 Catholic, and that about one-
 tenth of 1 per cent of the
 membership is Negro.
 Calls U.S. 'Insane Asylum'
 Welch spoke last night be-
 fore a crowd of 1300 at How-
 ard University, describing the
 United States as a "gigantic
 insane asylum."
 He criticized American do-

The Federal Diary

**Higher Pay Le
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 By Mike Cause
 An estimated 19,000
 tists, engineers and**

In Velting P District No 1

AS TIME GOES BY—these
 from the Smithsonian's Zale
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11/6/65
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'Hate' Phone Call

Exposure Fought

By Robert C. Albright
Washington Post Staff Writer

A slight, intense Sarasota, Fla., physician took sole responsibility yesterday for the flood of anonymous alleged "hate" messages automatically flooding some 60 communities via telephone recording devices.

Dr. William Campbell Douglass, a member of the John Birch Society and president of the right-wing organization Let Freedom Ring told a Senate Commerce subcommittee he is willing to insert his name in each of the hitherto anonymous telephone tapes.

But he strenuously objected to legislative and phone company moves to reveal names and addresses of local telephone subscribers whose taped voices repeat his message when advertised numbers are dialed.

"They would be harassed and exposed to crackpots," Douglass protested.

Sen. John O. Pastore (D-R.I.) broke in with a smile: "There is a difference of opinion about who are the crackpots."

The subcommittee heard

Douglass through before concluding two days of hearings on bills by Sens. Gale W. McGee (D-Wyo.) and Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.) to end the anonymity of such calls. Both bills carefully guard against disturbing free-speech guarantees.

Douglass opposed both bills. He objected as well to proposals by AT&T to give out as promptly as possible the names and addresses of subscribers to the automatic announcement service of all Bell System companies.

"Clearly the names of our sponsors should be available on court order only," Douglass said. "I think legislation should be passed to forbid AT&T from releasing the names. It is invasion of privacy."

He went on to predict that Let Freedom Ring will continue to operate "even if restrictive legislation is passed."

"We have been slandered from coast to coast by every newspaper in this country," he said, "but no one has attempted to sue us because we told the truth."

Pastore quoted one mes-

sage describing Gen. Eisenhower as "one of the greatest phonies ever put over on the American people." It said his book, "Crusade in Europe," was "ghost-written by a Communist agent." The message also described Earl Warren, Chief Justice of the United States, as a "pro-Communist." Pastore then asked the witness: "Who said that?" "I said that," acknowledged Douglass. "I'm about the most un-anonymous person around here."

McGee asked Douglass if he would file his scripts if required to do so. Douglass said he would be happy to file them, providing his local sponsors were not "exposed." He said some of them already have been fired from their jobs when their employers learned what they did.

McGee bore down acidly on Douglass's "concern" for his sponsors. Then the Wyoming Democrat told of an anonymous phone call he said he personally received after introducing his bill to knock the anonymity out of automated phone calls.

According to McGee, the unidentified voice told him "We already have let enough blood in this country, and it's time we let some of yours."

"Assuming this woman was serious," McGee told the witness, "my life is in jeopardy."

"I do not approve of anyone making threatening calls

to you or anyone else," replied Douglass.

"Have you ever said anything nice about anybody?" Pastore asked Douglass.

"Yes," replied the witness. "Gen. MacArthur and J. Edgar Hoover, and they are not all. We might even say something nice about you."

The subcommittee also heard from Sen. Javits and other witnesses proposing measures

to cope with anonymous, automatic phone calls.

Marvin Berger, representing the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, endorsed the Javits and McGee bills and a House bill by Rep. Benjamin S. Rosenthal (D-N.Y.). The Rosenthal bill requires preservation of tapes used in automatic recordings.

William C. Mott, vice president of the United States Independent Telephone Association, said he believed corrective measures taken "at the local level" will suffice.

Bruce L. Felknor, director of the Fair Campaign Practices Committee, testified that steps taken by the Bell Telephone companies to inhibit anonymity may make legislation unnecessary.

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THE WASH. POST & TIMES HERALD

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Date 11/20/65

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OCT 21 1965	
FBI - WASH. FIELD	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

b6
b7C

TO : SAC, WFO

DATE: 1/30/66

FROM : SA

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING

On 1/30/66 an individual who claimed to be a free lance writer called WFO and requested the identity of highly placed persons in the JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY. This individual, who refused to furnish his identity, stated he needed this information in connection with an article he was writing. The caller was advised the FBI could not furnish this type of information and if he wanted these individuals identity he would have to obtain it by his own means.

At the end of the conversation the caller stated the phone call cost him a fortune in that he was calling from Canada. There was no indication of this fact when the call was received.

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Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

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John Birch Police

By William F. Buckley Jr.



IT happened in Philadelphia, and in New York, and very probably will happen in a half-dozen other cities. It is discovered that some of the city's policemen are enrolled in the John Birch Society, and a municipal issue is created: should this be allowed?

The presumption, of course, is that it should be, since as the New York Times has pointed out, policemen too have civil rights and in the absence of a finding to the effect that membership in the Society impairs a policeman's efficiency or divides his loyalties, his freedom to associate with a political movement ought to be as secure as anyone else's.

The public discussion of the Philadelphia and New York episodes has turned up a lot of theory and a whole lot more rhetoric but has not, so far as I have seen, turned up a single example of a policeman who on account of his membership in the John Birch Society has incompletely or unfaithfully discharged his duties.

The case against permitting policemen to join rests on such abstractions as that the leadership of the John Birch Society is constantly exhorting its members to believe a lot of unbelievable things, foremost among them that the national civil rights movement is a "communist conspiracy," that the Government of the United States is under the management of the communists, and so forth.

It is surely proper, indeed desirable, that a Police Commissioner, on learning that there are Birchers in the ranks, issue a memorandum to the force. It should state:

"Gentlemen: You are explicitly pledged to enforce the law. Bear

in mind that you have a special moral obligation to help the historical victims of discriminatory laws, the Negro people. There are communists involved in the civil rights movement, but the movement is not by, or of the communists. Those of you who read John Birch Society literature should bear in mind that the most responsible anti-communist conservatives in the United States, for instance Sen. Goldwater, Sen. Tower, Russell Kirk, James Jackson Kilpatrick, J. Edgar Hoover have bemoaned the society's intellectually and morally crippling excesses. If the moment comes when there is evidence that membership by any one of you in the Society moves you other than in the direction of your duty, you will at that point be asked to resign either from the society or from this police force."

It is a pity that the case against the John Birch Society is regularly overdrawn.

The society, for instance, isn't "revolutionary," in any relevant sense. Its famous tactics are not different from those of any pressure group operating in the hurly burly of American society — COPE, for instance. Its leader Robert Welch is not anti-Semitic, indeed he has exhorted against anti-Semitism in his own literature.

There are, inevitably, anti-Semites who have got into the Society. But there are communists, too, in for instance the Student Non-Violent Co-ordinating Committee.

One of the difficulties in overkill is that it can produce negative results, precisely the opposite of what was intended. I do not know a surer way to strengthen the resolution of JBC members than to say about them or about their Society things that simply are not true, the apprehension of which strengthens them in their conviction that it is the outside world that is mendacious and hysterical, not their own leadership.

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LAW SAID TO BAR POLICE BIRCHERS

Legislators Contend Society
Is Political and Violates
the Election Statutes

By SYDNEY H. SOHANBERG
Special to The New York Times

ALBANY, May 9—Two joint legislative committees declared today that the John Birch Society was a political organization and that any policeman who belonged to it violated the Penal Law.

The committees' report said that despite protests by the militantly right-wing society that it was purely an educational organization, its official documents proved its political nature.

In contending that police service was legally incompatible with membership in the Birch Society, the report cited Paragraph 3 of Section 756 of the State Penal Law. That makes it a misdemeanor if a member of any police department in the state "contributes any money, directly or indirectly, to, or solicits, collects or receives any money for, any political fund, or joins or becomes a member of any political club, association, society or committee."

The report came from the Joint Legislative Committee on Election Laws, headed by Senator Irwin Brownstein, and the Joint Legislative Committee on Corporation Laws, headed by Assemblyman Bertram L. Podell. Both are Brooklyn Democrats. Their committees, which held two hearings on the

Birch Society issue in mid-March, went out of existence on March 31.

In New York City, the Birch Society dismissed the report as "radical hysteria" of "two small-town hack politicians."

"It's political time," Thomas F. Davis, the society's eastern public relations director, said at a news conference at the New York Hilton Hotel. "Brownstein and Podell can't get their names in the papers any other way, so they run against the Birch Society."

Mr. Davis said that since the terms of the two committees had expired the report had no legal status and the Birch Society "will take no action whatsoever."

The controversy had its beginning in a statement made by New York City's new Police Commissioner, Howard R. Leary, on Feb. 22, his first day in office.

Mr. Leary said then that he planned to permit policemen to belong to the Birch Society if their membership did not "impair their efficiency." However, the next day Mayor Lindsay asked the Commissioner for a full report on the activities of any policemen belonging to the society.

The following day, the Mayor denounced the society as "infamous," "terrible," and "hostile to everything I think is decent." Membership in the group, he said, "may well be inconsistent with being a good policeman."

Two weeks later, Commissioner Leary, at a hearing conducted by the two joint legislative committees, called the Birch Society "abhorrent" and said he would forbid policemen to belong "if I had the authority." He also said he would ask the city's Corporation Counsel for a ruling on whether he did have the power.

Report Still Awaited

The Commissioner said today that he was still awaiting the report of the Corporation Counsel, but that if the report found the Birch Society to be a political organization, he would bar the 27,500 members of the Police Department from belonging to it.

Mr. Leary indicated that he would rely on the Corporation Counsel's ruling, and not the legislative committees' report, in making his decision.

The Commissioner said that his investigation for the Mayor of the Birchers in the department who belong to the society would be completed soon, but that he doubted whether it would be made public.

The legislative report has no legal force; it merely recommends. It was released by Senator Brownstein at a news conference in the Assembly Parlor. Assemblyman Podell was not present.

According to the report, the Penal Law is not the only legal ground for disqualifying a policeman who is a Bircher. Section 439 of the New York City Charter was also cited that bars a policeman from becoming "a member of a political organization."

tion," and so does a Police Department regulation that prohibits membership in any group if such membership impairs efficiency as a policeman.

Law Violations Charged

The Brownstein-Podell report also contended that the Birch Society had violated the state's election law and general corporation law because it did not report its political receipts and expenditures to the Secretary of State as other political organizations do and did not register with the Secretary of State as other political organizations do and did not register with the Secretary as a nonprofit out-of-state corporation doing business in New York. The society has its headquarters in New Bedford, Mass.

Mr. Brownstein called on Secretary of State John P. Lomenzo and Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz to compel the society to comply with the state laws. Mr. Lomenzo could not be reached for comment. Mr. Lefkowitz said he would study the report and "take any action necessary within my jurisdiction."

The committee's report also called on the Superintendent of the State Police and all local police chiefs to post new regulations, telling policemen that membership in the Birch Society violated the Penal Law.

"Since membership in the society 'has been tolerated' until now by police departments in the state, the report said, it was only fair to give policemen new notice and a chance to quit the society, or appeal the regulation, before dismissing them."

Senator Brownstein said the Penal Law, while banning political activity, did not bar enrollment "in a duly constituted political party." He said he and Assemblyman Podell would propose clarifying legislation this year so that this point would not be misconstrued.

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NEW YORK TIMES

5/10/66

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SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
MAY 11 1966

June 14, 1966

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

A source, who is in a position to furnish reliable information, advised on June 13, 1966, that [redacted] was rented in March, 1965, by [redacted] also known as [redacted]

[redacted] on behalf of the John Birch Society for the purpose: "educational (about and against communism)".

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- 1 - 116th INTC GROUP / *Hand Carried*
1 - 100-38767 (JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY)

LHM Source: [redacted] USPO, Washington, D. C.
to SA PHILIP H. WILSON

LHM was prepared following telephone inquiry from 116th INTC GROUP.

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Serialized *122*
Indexed *122*
Filed *122*

100-38767-94

DIRECTOR, FBI

9/12/66

SAC, CHARLOTTE (100-9548)

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY (JBS)
INFO CONCERNING (IS)

Re Charlotte letter to Bureau, 9/1/66.

Enclosed for the Bureau and WFO is one
copy each of a letter dated 9/6/66, from [redacted]
representative of JBS,

b6
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b7D

to [redacted]
Charlotte, N. C.

- 2 - Bureau (Encl-1) (RM)
- ① - WFO (Encl-1) (RM)
- 1 - Charlotte (100-9548)

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Treason Riddles Capital, Birch Official Warns

Treason is the story in Washington today, Reed Benson, Washington representative for the John Birch Society, said Thursday night.

Speaking to about 100 persons at Myers Park High School, Benson charged that high government officials were "giving aid and comfort to the enemy" and that communism was making steady progress throughout the world.

Evidence of this treason by U.S. officials, he said, was the dismissal of Gen. Douglas MacArthur during the Korean War, the refusal by the Eisenhower administration to back the Hungarian freedom fighters, the initial acceptance of Fidel Castro's regime in Cuba and the failure to aid the Cuban invasion forces with air cover during the Bay of Pigs attempt.

Benson, the son of former Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson, said that FBI agents had told the John Birch Society that facts they submitted on Communists to Washington "disappeared."

Furthermore, he said, the alleged Communists in government were promoted, as in the case of Alger Hiss.

He claimed that the government suppressed the fact that a Canadian member of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee was employed in the Canadian power station where the massive 1965 black-out started.

More direct examples of treason, Benson charged, are the cultural exchanges, the sharing of space secrets and foreign aid between the United States and the Soviet Union.

"Would we have traded wheat and steel mills with Hitler?" he said. "Then why do we trade with mass murderers far more dangerous? When are we going to wake up?"



Benson

"Treason is prospering, but none dare call it treason," he paraphrased a well-known

quote.

To prevent the takeover of the unorganized American people by what he termed the "strategic few," he urged his listeners to investigate the aims and purposes of the Birch Society.

He outlined the aims as educational through publishing of relevant books, campaigns of letter writing to congressmen, pressure against stores carrying products of Iron Curtain countries and support of the local police.

"The Communists want to break down law and order so that Washington can come in," Benson said.

"They disobey the laws, calling it civil disobedience and make charges of police brutality. Then they say the local police can't handle a situation and only Washington can."

Centralization of power in one capital makes Communist takeover easier, he explained. And Washington is doing just that, he said.

"We are not a political group," he said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

7 CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
Charlotte, N. C.

Date: 8-26-66

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Title: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFO CONCERNING (IS)

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: CE 100-

☐ Being Investigated 9548

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DIRECTOR, FBI

9/1/66

SAC, CHARLOTTE (100-9548)

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY (JBS)
INFO CONCERNING (IS)

Enclosed for the Bureau and WFO is one copy each of a news article from the 8/26/66 issue of the "Charlotte Observer", Charlotte, N. C., captioned "Treason Riddles Capital, Birch Official Warns".

This article concerns a speech made by REED BENSON, Washington, D. C., representative for JBS, in Charlotte, N. C., on 8/25/66.

2 - Bureau (Encl-1) (RM)
① - WFO (Encl-1) (RM)
1 - Charlotte (100-9548)

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Birch Movie on Rights Links Negroes to Reds

By William E. Burrows
Washington Post Staff Writer

A room full of Fairfax County residents watched a film Thursday night that told them the civil rights movement is a step on the "vicious road to tyranny." They were not told, however, that the movie was made by the John Birch Society.

The film, entitled "Anarchy USA," was shown free by the Support Your Local Police Committee of the 800-member Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance, a conservative group.

The Fairfax showing follows by two weeks a similar presen-

tation, also without production and distribution credits, in Stamford, Conn.

The 65 persons who came to see it in the Fairfax Main County Library basement were told it was "a fully documented film expose of the reasons behind the organized rioting, general lawlessness throughout the country, and the truth behind the false charges of 'police brutality.'"

Actually, the one-and-a-quarter-hour film hardly mentions police, brutal or otherwise. Its first half deals with Marxist-Leninist plans for world conquest. Its second translates the master plan into one being practiced by American civil rights leaders.

Rules for "Takeover"

It uses newsreel clips to depict Communist takeovers on the China mainland and in Cuba, supposedly according to five rules which later are seen to be used by the civil rights movement in the United States.

Rules for a gradual Communist takeover, according to the film, are (respectively), divide the people, create the appearance of popular support, neutralize the opposition, precipitate mob violence and create the semblance of revolution.

If "the Communist-backed civil rights movement" successfully implements these rules, the film concludes, the United States eventually will be divided into Soviet America and Soviet Negro America.

The latter would stretch across what the narrator calls the Southern "Black Belt" as far north as the Potomac.

The film also alleges that Communistic civil rights leaders are taught to slander "any group that gets in your way." Labels such as Nazi, Fascist, controversial and extremist are flashed on the screen. The last is "Birchite," the only reference to the Society in the film.

Source of Film

When Taxpayers Alliance President Joseph G. Muer Jr., a 48-year-old salesman, was asked where the film came from, he said, "I borrowed it from a gentleman." He then suggested the question be directed to John Hemperley, the group's chairman of publicity.

Hemperley had addressed the audience briefly before the movie. Now he stood next to a table filled with paperbacks and pamphlets published by the American Opinion Library while a woman nearby counted dollar bills that had been dropped into a passing plate during intermission.

"We got the film from Dr. Jack Messner, a McLean dentist. I think it's his film," Hemperley said before adding that Messner is a member of the Taxpayers Alliance and that the film "might have been produced by the John Birch Society." He suggested the question be put to Messner. "I believe it's compiled by the John Birch Society," Messner said later. "We have many films in many areas and I happen to have one of them. They're showing all over the country."

Did that "we" mean he is a member of the Society?

"Yes," Messner said, "I've

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belonged to the Arlington chapter for a couple of years." Did he know why the film was not credited to the Birch group?

He said he did not, but suggested the question be asked of someone else, and supplied the name.

"I also have film strips," Messner said. "One is called 'Civil Rights—Red Reconstruction.' The other is 'Show Biz in the Street.' There's also one on the United Nations," he said.

Messner's political education activities include "Let Freedom Ring," which he operates from his home at 1340 Kirby rd. When a certain telephone number is dialed, the caller is treated to a three-minute recorded message, changed weekly.

The thrust of this week's recording is that American troops in Vietnam are commanded by a Russian general.

DATE 1-29-67

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BIRCH FILM SHOWN WITHOUT CREDITS

Rights Leaders Depicted as
Reds in Connecticut

Special to The New York Times
STAMFORD, Jan. 14—A new John Birch Society film that depicts the civil rights movement as "a Communist plot to set race against race" is being shown to Connecticut audiences unaware of its origin.

Using newsreel clips and quotations from Lenin and Marx, the motion picture, "Anarchy, U.S.A.," implies that many American civil rights leaders are Communists.

It concludes that their activities are "simple part of a worldwide movement directed by Communists to enslave the world."

The movie was shown to 150 persons in a public school auditorium here last night, with no acknowledgement that it had been produced by the Birch Society.

The showing, advertised in a Stamford newspaper as the "first in a series of patriotic programs," was sponsored by a local group called the Ameri-

cans for Constitutional Liberties.

James R. De Naples, chairman of the organization, said that it had 100 members, and that it was "independent, and not affiliated with any other group." He said he did not know where the movie had come from.

Distributed Free

Robert M. Rogerson, the full-time Birch Society coordinator for the area that includes Connecticut, said: "It's a logical assumption that our members are involved in that Stamford group. The movie is certainly the society speaking."

Mr. Rogerson, who distributes "Anarchy, U.S.A." free to anyone who asks for it, said his organization had produced the motion picture last August as "our official position on the subject of the so-called civil rights movement."

Asked why the film carries no credit line, he said: "I don't know, I guess they just didn't bother."

He said that there were several hundred copies of the film being circulated by the Birch Society members around the country. Often it is shown by an organization called Truth About Civil Turmoil (TACT), which he described as a "Birch front."

The audience here last night entered the hall to the tune of a taped choruses of "The Battle

Hymn of the Republic" and "The Star-Spangled Banner." After the movie they applauded, and then gave a total of \$17.50 to a man collecting donations at the door.

"We're very encouraged by the way 'Anarchy, U.S.A.' is usually received," said Mr. Rogerson, "and we're looking forward to getting it before some college and church groups."

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New York Times 1/15/67

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Talk Scheduled By Birch Society

The John Birch Society's speakers' bureau has scheduled the second in a series of five Washington area lectures for Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. at Gunston Junior High School, 2700 S. Lang. St., Arlington.

Richard F. Carter, president of several small firms specializing in the manufacture of missile ground support equipment, will speak on the topic "Betrayal of U.S. Air Force by Civilian Technical Command."

Tickets are available in advance at the Washington office of the John Birch Society, 1028 Connecticut Ave. NW, and at the door on the night of the speech.

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THE WASHINGTON POST
& TIMES HERALD

THE EVENING STAR

✓ THE SUNDAY STAR

THE WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS

WASHINGTON AFRO AMERICAN

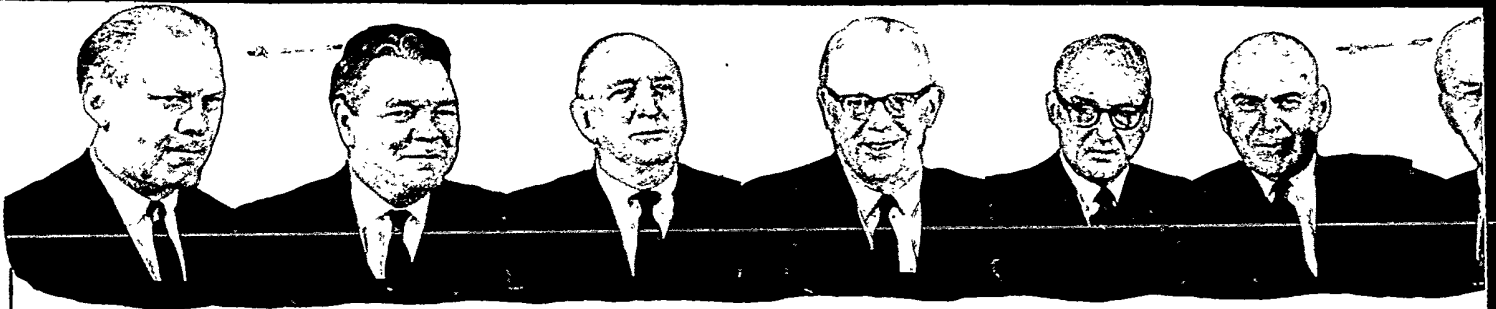
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"THE WASHINGTONIAN"
MONTHLY MAGAZINE
FEB, 1967 P. 60

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THERE WAS NOTHING THEY COULD DO

*Much has been written about what the Warren Commission found—
but very little on why they found what they did. . . .
It's the story of an investigation that wasn't.*

By Milton Viorst

More than three years have passed since President Kennedy was shot down on a Dallas street, yet the crime appears more mysterious now than it did the day it was committed. The Warren Commission has declared that Lee Harvey Oswald, by himself, was the killer, but more and more persons have come to doubt that the verdict is correct, and their arguments can no longer be dismissed out of hand. One wonders, how could the Warren Commission have gone so far astray that its efforts are the object of such numerous and such persuasive challenges? The answer emerges when one reconstructs the atmosphere in which the Commission was created and the psychology with which it went about its work. In setting out to resolve the mystery of the Kennedy assassination, the Warren Commission fell into an intellectual trap which determined the course of its investigation from beginning to end.

Think back, if it is not too painful, to those awful days in November 1963, and recall that amid the terrible confusion and dismay there was, at least, some comfort in the feeling that the assassin had been caught. Texas police officials, one after another, had announced before the television cameras that the crime had been solved and, as if their word was not enough, the FBI confirmed the claim. At the time, one had no reason to doubt that Oswald had killed the President. When Oswald was himself murdered, there was almost a sigh of relief that the country would be spared a trial that would, at best, be indecorous—and, most believed, would be superfluous, besides.

Lyndon Johnson's first impulse seemed to be to let the matter take its natural course. Although Anglo-Saxon jurispru-

dence contains no procedure for criminal action against a dead man, Johnson regarded the evidence against Oswald as so massive that the case would, through conventional channels of information, take care of itself.

It quickly became clear, however, that, despite Johnson, others were extremely interested in bringing to the public their own versions of events. Texas, looking for absolution, announced that a court of inquiry would be established. Senator Eastland of Mississippi, with uncertain motives, said that the Internal Security Subcommittee, of which he is chairman, would conduct an investigation. The House, never willing to surrender attention to the other body, began to talk of its own committee probe. Meanwhile, a grand jury was being contemplated and parallel investigations had been undertaken by the FBI and Texas law enforcement agencies. The imminent proliferation of inquiries generated consternation among those who took seriously the nation's dignity. It was not hard to foresee that they would degenerate into an unseemly rivalry, with the country becoming, in its moment of tragedy, an international laughing stock.

To President Johnson, Oswald's death indicated that the normal judicial channels—arrest, charge, indictment, trial—were closed. If there was to be an investigation at all, it had to be by some special body. To forestall a multiplicity of inquiries, he decided to appoint that body himself. He thus created the Warren Commission.

In retrospect, one understands better why Lyndon Johnson turned to the device of the Warren Commission. In November 1963, the new President's executive techniques were unknown.

Now one realizes that his method of handling difficult problems is not necessarily to resolve them but to neutralize them through politics. His conception of conducting an investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy was not to go straight for the truth, whatever its consequences; it was to nominate a body whose political credentials were so impeccable that, whatever was found, it would be immune to criticism.

He chose as the chairman the prestigious Chief Justice. But Earl Warren, a hero to liberals, was anathema to the South and to the extreme right, so he appointed as counterweights Senator Richard Russell of Georgia and Representative Hale Boggs of Louisiana. To be fair to Republicans, he named Senator John Sherman Cooper, a moderate, and Representative Gerald Ford, a conservative. To mollify the Establishment, he selected John J. McCloy, listed in *Who's Who* as a Wall Street banker, and to calm the bureaucracy, he picked Allen Dulles, former head of the CIA. If he were naming the Commission today, he would probably include a Negro and a Jew, but without them he did very well indeed in covering the major segments of the political panorama.

Johnson picked his candidates on the basis of their reputations as politicians, not investigators. It is clear that he did not foresee an onerous inquiry. When Warren objected that he lacked the time to serve, Johnson, certain that the case was open and shut, assured him that he could still perform his duties at the Court. Johnson persuaded his candidates that it was their patriotic responsibility to accept appointment. He wanted the *right* men, not *right* as seekers of truth but for a crucial exercise in politics. For politics, as Johnson knows, is truly the "art of government."





G ELSE

One need not impugn Johnson's motives in setting the standards for Commission membership. He regarded it as essential to the best interests of the nation that the Commission be politically perfect. The Commission members, for their part, understood their task as a service to the nation. It has been said—as the President intended it to be—that the members of the Warren Commission were all men of integrity. But, in a sense, their very integrity played tricks on them. Though they did not anticipate a conflict between truth and the national interest, when it occurred, they accepted President Johnson's contention that their duty was to the nation.

Having been given by the President whatever powers it needed, the Commission began by selecting a staff—a group of lawyers, which, like itself, was more politically representative than it was competent at investigation. Then the Commission made the major decisions that set the direction and the quality of the inquiry. Whatever their intent, these decisions destroyed the Commission's capacity to function as a free agency and drove it ineluctably to the verdict that Lee Oswald was, by himself, guilty of the murder. Like a Greek tragedy, the Commission marched to a foreordained climax.

By deciding not to retain its own body of investigators, the Warren Commission made itself dependent for its principal facts on the FBI. On December 9, five days after the first Commission meeting, the FBI submitted a report which declared categorically that Oswald was the killer. Thus, from the Commission's opening days, the FBI possessed a vested interest in a single story. Even more than other governmental agencies, the FBI has a profound sense of its

own rectitude. It was profoundly contrary to experience and reason to expect the FBI to put significant effort into providing information that could, by leading to an alternative explanation of the murder, cast discredit on itself. At best, the FBI was involved in a conflict of interests. The Warren commission was thus an investigative body without a reliable investigative arm.

Having decided to rely on it, the Commission could presumably have pressed the FBI to perform in a satisfactory manner. The Commission, after all, had been endowed by the President with the powers of a super-agency. But, in practice, the Commission did not exercise those powers and functioned on the FBI's sufferance. When the Commission was confronted with the allegation that Oswald had been an FBI agent, it dismissed the charge on the basis of a simple denial from J. Edgar Hoover. When there arose some suggestion that the FBI might have been remiss in helping to protect the President, Hoover replied testily that he had long before rejected police-state tactics. During the course of the investigation, Hoover's aggressiveness generated open feuding with the State Department and the Secret Service. Surely the members of the Commission felt that it was not in the best interests of the nation to have this bureaucratic bickering on display. It was far easier to accept meekly what the FBI had to offer than to risk an intra-governmental rupture.

To be sure, Robert Kennedy, then Attorney General, was J. Edgar Hoover's titular supervisor, but, even in his best days, Kennedy had found it hard to keep Hoover in line. And the melancholy months after the assassination were not Robert Kennedy's best days. President Johnson has since cited Kennedy's presence in the Justice Department as evidence of the authenticity of the Commission's findings. But even if Kennedy's objective was scientific truth, he exercised little power over the FBI and none over the Warren Commission during the investigation. Besides, there is no reason to believe that Robert Kennedy did not share the Commission's outlook that the service which was called for was not so much to truth as to the national well-being.

Having rejected establishing an investigative staff of its own, the Commission made a second momentous decision: It agreed to do its work under the pressure of time. Johnson believed that unless the Oswald case were quickly closed, the assassination might somehow become a political issue in the 1964 election campaign. He was anxious to have the Commission's report finished well before the Republican National Convention in July. Since the Commission could not do any serious examining before the termination of the Jack Ruby

trial in March, the time was short indeed. In consenting to the presidential deadline, the Commission precluded itself from any kind of painstaking investigation. It meant that the Committee would have to be selective in choosing its areas of inquiry. In practice, the decision meant that the Commission would seek, in Justice Warren's words, "to close doors, not to open them." It meant, of course, that the Commission would have time only to sustain the hypothesis that Lee Oswald alone was guilty. And that was precisely what the Commission sought to do.

By the time the Commission realized how complex the circumstances were, it was too late to reverse the momentum. Warren proved to have no stomach for rethinking and reorganizing the investigation. Impatient to get over with it, he drove the staff harder and harder to reach the preconceived conclusion. The end result became the opposite of his intention. The Commission report, instead of convincing the world of Oswald's culpability, has itself become the object of enormous mistrust.

According to its mandate, the Warren Commission had been established to find out *the truth* about the Kennedy assassination. President Johnson had instructed it to end, once and for all, speculation over the murder. The Commission, as a result, was denied the prerogative of saying that there were several possible theories, that its members could not agree on an explanation, that the puzzle demanded a further inquiry of indefinite duration. The Warren Commission was called upon to supply certainty. Lyndon Johnson and the American people demanded an answer. Under tremendous pressure, the Commission gave it to them—but it was the easiest answer available. It is ironic that the Commission's prestige persuaded some of the most renowned sages of American society to pronounce the work perfect before they had even read it.

The Warren Commission's conclusion is not necessarily the wrong one, but, by the same token, there is nothing compelling to indicate that it is the right one. The Commission selected facts as it needed them to sustain a hypothesis. Its critics have shown that it disregarded evidence which was contradictory. It is no exaggeration to say that the report of the Warren Commission fails to meet the highest standards of scientific methodology. Understandably, it has steadily been losing public confidence.

The defenders of the Warren Commission seem to be divided into several groups. Senator Philip Hart of Michigan, a member of the let's-not-rock-the-boat school, had this to say: "We should let this one rest now with the poets and the historians. I think the caliber of the men who composed that commission insures
(continued on page 81)

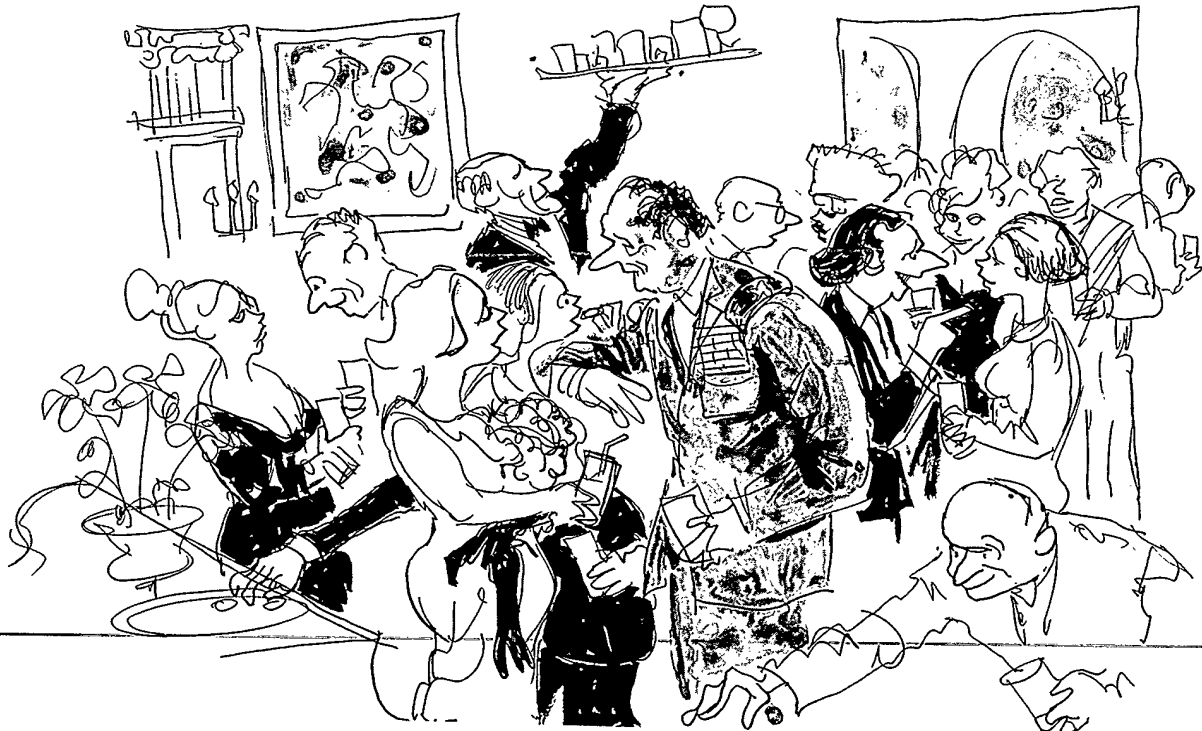
“I’m Houngharian,
how are you?”

A pictorial guide to embassy parties

By Eugene Basset



"Welcome, welcome to our humble abode."



"In Veet Nam, Ma'am, it's us against the Mongol hordes!"

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Warren from page 61

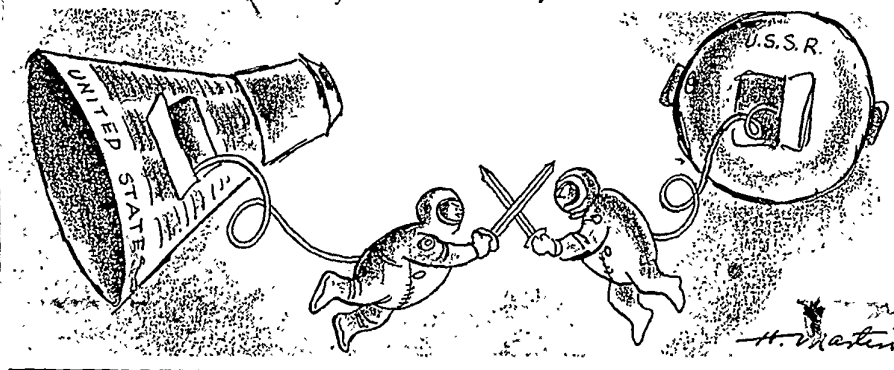
that the verdict, the general verdict, is sound." In contrast to Hart, others have been openly pugnacious and disparage the motives of the critics. Malcolm Kilduff, a former White House press aide, has characterized attacks on the report as "pure garbage," written for personal gain. A third group, of which the President is a member, declares loftily that the critics have brought forth insufficient evidence to justify reopening the case. "I know of no evidence," he said, "that would in any way cause any reasonable person to have a doubt about the Warren Commission." But this is to ignore the questions that quite reasonable persons and publications have raised on the basis of the Commission's own data. Virtually no effort has been put into the obvious instrumentality of refuting the critics' arguments.

For President Johnson to reopen the investigation now would, of course, be an enormous admission of failure. The prestige of the federal establishment is attached to the Warren report. Great Americans have a stake in its preservation. The FBI is sternly committed to its defense. The American people are most comfortable with its message. Right or wrong, it has stood for two years as official dogma. It now represents a vested interest to the American political system. For its critics to quash it would be a monumental task.

The pressure, however, may grow so severe that the President may not be

able to resist. But what will happen? To return the case to the Warren Commission would be to invite the same difficulties as before. The French Republic was rocked by the Dreyfus case, not because the original injustice was so shocking but because a government, by refusing to concede a small mistake, allowed the mistake to be compounded into an enormous official lie. However more stable this country may be, the American Government is not immune to a profound crisis of confidence.

But there should be a new investigation, as even *Life* magazine has said, and the lesson of the Warren Commission is that a new investigative body must be independent of the federal bureaucracy and dedicated to scientific truth. Its chairman must be esteemed but free, a responsible maverick, a figure like ex-Senator Paul Douglas, Admiral Rickover (if he left the Navy), or James Conant, former president of Harvard. On its staff must be highly qualified criminologists, the best experts in crime detection, and a squad of highly qualified detectives, none of them in the debt of the FBI or any other agency of the United States or Texas. They must have at their disposal the power to subpoena and to grant immunity, the capacity to pursue any lead, and the authority to spend whatever time and money they need. They must be willing to challenge the status quo and defy the vested interests. Most of all, a new investigative body would have to begin its work free of the conviction that there is a single truth which best serves American society. □



Washington's Right Wingers

It's all kind of—ho hum—happy. You go around believing you live in the greatest country in the world, you know it has its faults, but Jack Valenti sleeps easy and so do you; you know there's a cold war, a hot war, you vote for your leaders and pledge allegiance to their good faith; you adjust to conflict, you ache through John Kennedy's death, and you continue to believe. Yet, there are constant startlers: People hint of dark plots in high places; a wide part of Los Angeles is burned; textbooks are criticized as unpatriotic; far right movies are shown as regular fare in schools, and a loud-mouth in Arlington, Va., acts out his Fuehrer Complex. There's a plot to blow up the Statue of Liberty and the Washington Monument, armed Minutemen on the march are seized, and a political hero condones extremism in defense of liberty; dissenters are labeled traitors; there are rumors and riots and slander, "peaceniks" and "counter-peaceniks." Youth is frightened; age is terrified. Newspapers, magazines, radios, recorded telephone messages and PTA meetings tell you so, but you don't quite believe it. The country is basically sound and safe. The mature don't really swallow "conspiracy of evil" theories. You, for one, are not losing your grip on reality, and you don't think many people are. It's just those nasty Extremists—the Left Wing, the Right Wing, nuts in Dallas, kooks in California. . . . Look again.

The Nation's Capital abounds with people who, at best, are not calm. There are at least 30 Right Wing organizations in the city and its suburbs—some children of a national family, some sprung full-grown from the heads of local creators. And this story, in as apolitical a way as possible, will explore them—their structure, publications, leaders, members, finances, and beliefs.

It is important, if difficult, to distinguish the ideological gradations in the Right spectrum—gradations that range from the clearly non-conservative (that is, excessive) to merely "right of center." It's best, perhaps, to make four categories.

(1) There are exotic hues. The way-out, unsophisticated Right, labeled the "nut fringe," consists of the no-bones-about-it racists, the anti-Semites, anti-immigrants, and paramilitary groups. They cite God as the original segregationist. They are stereotyped isolationists and they are arming against invasion, internal and external.

(2) Radical Rightists, sometimes called Extremists, believe the country is fraught with Communist conspirators and Communist "dupes" who will ultimately demolish and take over our Government, if they do not intervene. (Their view of the world has been called "doom-shaped.") They see these conspirators in the Government, the civil rights movement, and the National Council of Churches. They say the United Nations is Communist-controlled and the United States should get

out of it. "Christianity" is often their banner, "patriotism" their motto.

(3) Extreme Conservatives see Liberalism or "creeping Socialism" as the major threat to our freedoms and view society's attempts to bring its "outsiders" inside, or to make the social and economic "unequals" equal, as unconstitutional at best. They are vehement anti-Communists but do not adhere to the "conspiracy theory of history." In opposing legislation, they point not to the Kremlin but to the Constitution.

(4) Simple Conservatives (with shades of both the Radicals and the Extremes nestled snugly within their ranks) model their thinking after paragon Barry Goldwater, revere Robert Taft, Sr., call Franklin Roosevelt "that man," fear the encroachment of Big Government.

The Washington Right embodies all of these positions, but they resent being lumped together, as perhaps they should. Many take up the Liberal-originated cry of "guilt by association" when the Anti-Defamation League points to the presence of racists or Extremists in the midst of a group which considers itself only extremely conservative. Youthful Rightists often point to the presence of Jews in their organizations when they are accused of "anti-Semitism."

Al Ryskind, an editor of Human Events, a well-written, strong Right publication, which has been accused of leaping to the defense of Right Wingers on the anti-Semitic fringe, argues that "if the American Civil Liberties Union defends someone because they've been deprived of their rights—like George Lincoln Rockwell—that doesn't mean they endorse him. . . . I'm Jewish . . . we have no truck with anti-Semitism."

Many of the Right, in fact, are ex-Liberals, ex-Democrats, even ex-Communists, like Kenneth Goff, Liberty Lobby Board member, who is generally credited with "revealing" that the fluoridation of water is a Communist plot. Or Phillip Luce, ex-Progressive Labor Party member who was scared off by their militancy.

Those of Right persuasion believe the number of converts is increasing. Young Americans for Freedom president Tom Huston declares that the Peace Corps volunteers are leaving the country as Liberals and returning as Conservatives.

Washington Rightists are reluctant to pass judgment on each other, except confidentially or "off-the-record." They say they see no particular threat in the John Birch Society, but a few think the Society is off base. Their comments about other organizations and themselves are recorded here.

They are all, for varying reasons, against the same thing: the Left. They are, strangely, against each other. They seem, often, against themselves.

Some, because of public censure, are quick to deny they are Rightists. Most are proud.

The thing that kills Gloria is that no matter how much you love somebody, you're not supposed to show it. Sharon knows that sometimes you can't get an-

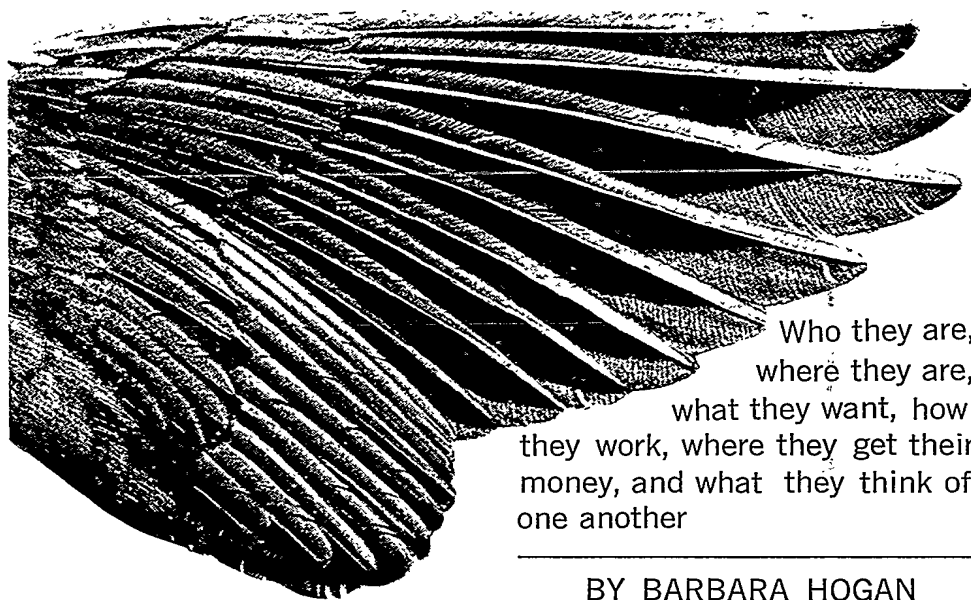
And maybe that's what makes all the difference. You can't quit caring, loving. That's morality. And nobody cares about morality. Oh they say they do, but they don't. "They only care whether you wear blue jeans or not. They don't care if you screw," Evie says, "as long as you're quiet about it and don't get pregnant. It's like all that honor stuff at school, with honor week and all." But nobody cares if some kid is cracking up slowly and silently. That's wrong. Deep, down, basically wrong. Nobody's helping. You can be a really good person, like Sharon says, and society shrugs you off. The right thing is anything that's not so anti-human. The society, you see, is tuned to the body and not the soul. Either you take society on its terms, they'll tell you, or, too bad, you lose. What you have to do is live your own life, find something meaningful, and society is just out there and cruddy. Oh you have to compromise here and there. Like making a living. But there are more important things than the silli-

ness of society. And you really can't change it. It might change some, might become a little bit more free, but it will never quite catch up to all of you out there on the fringe. The beeries still spit on you. The worst part is you never know for sure. No matter how you feel, no matter how much you believe in certain things, you can't know for sure. "The thing is, morality in the society isn't based on people. The thing is, what are you going to do? You try to live so that you don't do anything to make yourself miserable. You can't go out and change the world, you can only add one more person who isn't so bad. You can live as if your life makes a difference and you can affect other people and make things different, better. They'll all think you're queer if you really live the way you want to." But, Evie says, worse than the reaction of other people are all the things inside you that make it so hard to cut loose, let go, and live the way you want to. Because always in the back of your mind is the thought that maybe you're wrong. That really shakes you up. You ask yourself, "Who am I to have all these great ideas that nobody agrees with?" So what do you do? Keep on going, listening to the voice inside and hoping some day you won't be afraid and some day maybe you won't mind that the voice won't shut up and go away. It's like Evie tells you: "I just can't believe that things aren't going to be better. I just can't." □



"I'm not afraid of the communists taking over this country.
It's the teenagers I'm afraid of!"

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Who they are,
where they are,
what they want, how
they work, where they get their
money, and what they think of
one another

John Birch Society

John Birch Society lobbyist Reed/Benson is downright haughty.

"If the Liberals realized how well we're doing, they might get frustrated," he grins, refusing a request for a membership figure.

The Society, its Washington headquarters at 1028 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., is named after the "first victim of World War III." It is an "educational organization" and its sole purpose is "to expose Communism," Benson says. It has publications—the monthly Bulletin (circulation not reported) and American Opinion (circulation 43,000)—a fifteen-minute radio program which can be heard on 180 stations, including an American Opinion Speakers Bureau and American Opinion book stores (there is one in Alexandria, Va., at 2406 Cameron Mills Rd.).

National membership has been estimated as high as 100,000 and its 1965 income has been estimated at around \$4,300,000. Paul Winzer in Middletown, Md., an engineer who gave up his profession to devote himself full-time to the job of Society coordinator, says it is not the Society's "policy" to reveal membership, and Benson says he doesn't know the local enrollment. But Mr. Benson does know some of the prominent local members, such as Jim Matthews, owner of Tops Drive-In in Arlington, and Dr. Melchoir/Savarese in D. C.

You can, if you wish, get a reading of John Birch thought at American Opinion Speakers Bureau lectures. A recent one was in the nearly full auditorium of the Gunston Junior High School in Arlington, where the speaker was Alan Stang, 34, a member of the Society's Jewish Society of Americanists, a former script writer for the Mike Wallace television show and author of one of the Society's

favorite books, *It's Very Simple*. His lecture follows the line of the book.

"Daddy-Bird Johnson" is publicly plotting to destroy the United States Constitution, he says. "Hubert-Bird" is actively working to destroy the United States. "R. Sargent Shriver-Bird" is destroying the employment business in New York; Martin Luther King is knowingly preparing us for capture by the Communists; the "so-called" Civil Rights Movement, "planned, begun, staffed, and conducted by Communists," has but one purpose: the destruction of the United States and the enslavement of both races under Communism. The final result, he sums up, addressing the ladies, is "that you, your fifteen-year-old daughters, and your eighty-year-old mothers, will be taken to recreation camps for the troops where you will be raped twelve hours a day until you can't stand up, and in three months you will be dead. . . ."

Applause. Questions from the audience.

"Is President Johnson a Communist? Is Hubert Humphrey?"

"We know that Hubert Humphrey is actively working to destroy the United States," replies Mr. Stang. What difference does it make if he's a Communist?

Another asks, darkly, "Could you name the Communists in SNCC? And where can I find them?"

Mr. Stang doesn't answer the question, but he tells the man there is something he can do about it all.

"Join the John Birch Society."

Liberty Lobby

Liberty Lobby is powerful but unloved. Even its friends call it "irresponsible" and "nutty." It is admittedly anti-intellectual, and young intellectual Conservatives view it with feelings

leery-to-hostile. Older Conservatives pay it little mind.

Nevertheless, the Liberty Letter has a circulation of 175,000 a year and ranks second among the paid-circulation periodicals of the Right, one notch above William Buckley's highly-respected National Review. Lobbyist W. B. Hicks is proud to declare Liberty Lobby "the organization that stopped the Consular Treaty from being ratified in 1965," and the success is generally conceded. It has also lobbied against civil rights legislation, foreign aid, federal aid to education, tax-supported housing, and Food for Freedom sales to Red bloc countries. Its reported 1965 income was \$434,239.

It has a 12,000-member Board of Policy (consisting of Liberty Letter subscribers who wish to join). Its board chairman is Curtis/Dall, New York stockbroker and former husband of FDR's daughter Anna. Top-selling novelist Taylor/Caldwell is a Liberty Lobby supporter and spokesman. Founder-Treasurer is one Willis/Carto, an invisible chieftain who spends most of his time on the West Coast and does not subject himself to interview.

Visible head at the Capitol Hill office (132 Third Street, S.E.) is W. B. Hicks ("Bix" to his friends), a 34-year-old Texas-Conservative-Democrat and one-time integrationist-turned-Washington-Conservative-Republican, who used to work for Human Events and boasts he had a hand in editing and rewriting LBJ—A Political Biography, an anti-Johnson piece which was circulated during the 1964 campaign. He is now lobbyist and editor of Liberty Letter. He says he began to think right when he read Hazlitt's *Economics in One Lesson*.

Liberty Lobby isn't especially eager to change anyone else's mind and Hicks is contemptuous of "educational" organizations. "We are not trying to educate people; we are trying to get people who are already on our side to exert their influence on their representatives. . . . Read the Liberty Letter," he suggests, adding that you will find it "offensive" and "an insult to your intelligence."

The Letter and the lobby are but parts of a growing, gigantic whole. Liberty Lobby merged last year with Americans for National Security and prepares AFNS pamphlets, like "J. William Fulbright: Freedom's Judas Goat—a blazing exposé of the most dangerous man in the Senate." Liberty Lobby is closely allied with the United Republicans, led by Bruce/Evans, whose office is right next door, and which, Hicks says, tries "to fill the need that I don't—of going to the grass roots and organizing at the grass roots. . . . I have a body up there writing for the Observer, a newsletter with an address in Washington."

business address. Lee/Roberts is listed as editor, but Hicks says it is a pseudonym; for whom, he doesn't say.

There is a clue. Willis Carto, Hicks tells you, has several other ventures and one of them is the American Mercury magazine, which also lists "Lee Roberts," but not Carto, as a contributor, and which Washington Observer subscribers receive four times a year. American Mercury tells its readers of the fallacies of the anti-poverty war, calls the Anti-Defamation League the "Jewish Gestapo," and declares that modern architecture has played an important part in the "death of God."

Another Carto venture is Western Destiny magazine, Hicks says. Hicks describes it as "racially-oriented." It warns its readers of the dangers of "Communist" rock 'n' roll and folk music, "deliberately contrived along Pavlovian lines" and "capable of producing neurosis, because of its diabolical use of excitatory stimulus which, when combined with the normal inhibitory reflex of every child brought up in a decent home, aids in creating mental illness." Or that "too much music will make a man effeminate. . . ."

Carto and Liberty Lobby gained notoriety last fall when a defector took copies of the Lobby's files to Drew Pearson. Pearson subsequently wrote of Japanese rifles secreted in a packing case in the Lobby's Washington office and hinted of possible connections with the Minutemen. He also published a letter from Carto to Judge Brady of Alabama written in 1955, which indicated that Carto was planning to form an organization to uphold segregation and that, in order to avoid suspicion, the lobbying aspect of it would be emphasized. (Liberty Lobby was created in 1958.)

Liberty Lobby is unperturbed. It will hold a "Conference of Conservatives" in Washington in March and hopes that its representatives will be granted audience with President Johnson. The conference, says Hicks, will be a "seminar on how to be more effective in dealing with the 90th Congress." It will also be a "clearing house for new issues and ideas," and all subscribers are invited. "We have a lot of people," says Hicks, "interested in anti-fluoridation, others are anti-vivisectionists, some are prohibitionists. . . ."

Americans for Constitutional Action

Americans for Constitutional Action is the Conservatives' answer to the Liberals' Americans for Democratic Action.

Director Charles McManus has his hotel office near Union Station in Washington, D.C., and runs it as a "service unit" (of either party) run-

organized in 1958 at the behest of Walter J. Rumsfeld and other

Congressmen. It puts out a yearly voting record (the ACA Index), provides professional staff assistants for campaigns (speech writers, for example), picks up "certain expenses" for Congressman after the campaigns, and presents a yearly award.

Mr. McManus says it has no membership, but it does have chapters—one in Montgomery County consisting of about 60 people. Board chairman is Adm. (Ret.) Ben Moreell. President is Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Thomas Lane, a former D.C. Engineer Commissioner, from '54 to '57.

ACA's 1966 income from contributors was \$157,186. About one-fifth of its money comes from the Pew family (Sun Oil Co.) in Philadelphia, known Birch Society leaders.

ACA is more the middle-aged Conservative voice.

Young Americans for Freedom

It was Barry Goldwater who suggested that the young Conservatives form a national organization, and Young Americans for Freedom (known as YAF) was inaugurated in the fall of 1960 at the family home of William Buckley in Sharon, Connecticut.

YAF's fiscal 1966 income was about \$449,000. It spent \$476,535. A good percentage of its membership of about 30,000 are college and high school students. YAF claims chapters on 460 campuses—in Washington at George Washington and American universities, and some members at Georgetown.

"These are the Beautiful people, the Young people, the Pepsi Generation Conservatives. Even its opponents say it is effective and well-run."

At the national office, 1224 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., there is David Franke, a good-looking, 28-year-old blond straight out of 77 Sunset Strip. David is the editor of the New Guard, a handsome, slick-paper magazine (circulation 25,000), which David says does not necessarily express the views of YAF, which is like saying the White House press releases do not necessarily express the views of President Johnson.

Both Franke and David Jones, executive director, are former Democrats.

YAF President Tom Huston, 25, is a Phi Beta Kappa who graduated second in his '66 class from the University of Indiana Law School. He is a toothpick-thin, boy-genius type who wears a vest, talks a lot, and makes as if to leave the room when you bring up people like Alan Stang. "I read *It's Very Simple*," he tells you, "and the only thing they don't tell you about that book is that it's written by a simpleton." Most Conservatives, he feels, have become anti-civil rights, "emotionally," because of the "unfair treatment the Civil Rights Movement gave Barry Goldwater."

And Dave is quick to recall "we ran an editorial [in the New Guard] sup-



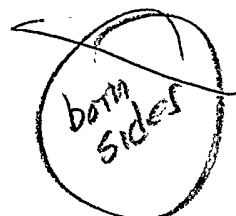
L. Brent Bozell, an editor of Triumph magazine



W. B. Hicks, Washington head of the Liberty Lobby.

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Reed Benson, lobbyist for the John Birch Society.



Thomas S. Winter, editor of Human Events.

porting a stiff voting rights bill before LBJ ever thought of it . . . but we did not support the 1965 voting bill word for word."

They both feel the country's major problem is a toss-up between the Communist threat (YAF has an anti-Communist World Youth Crusade which last year sent nine representatives overseas for conferences) and the Liberals, who seem hell-bent on bankrupting the country in the next twenty years.

They are against trade with Communist countries. They are non-isolationists, Hawks on the Vietnam war question (YAF has counter-picketed the "peace-niks"), and opposed the admission of Red China to the U.N., but "we've never come out against the U.N."

Tom says they view the House Un-American Activities Committee favorably, "as a legislative extension of Congress," are "opposed to open housing as unconstitutional, intellectually dishonest, deceitful, and politically motivated" and, as Conservatives, believe in limited government and sound fiscal policy (i.e., "a balanced budget").

"We are strict Constitutionalists and champions of private enterprise."

YAF has been involved in some boisterous infighting in the ranks of the Young Republicans of D.C. One YAF maneuver, which was later rescinded, was to vote all the money out of the YR treasury when they failed to throw out the "liberal" president, Reuben McCornack.

YAF's political action committee (YAF-PAC) merged with the American Conservative Union last summer.

American Conservative Union

YAFer Dave Jones' brother, John, runs the political action committee at the American Conservative Union at 1010 Vermont Avenue, N.W. John estimates a local membership of between three and four thousand.

Congressman John Ashbrook of Ohio is ACU's chairman and Robert Bauman, once chairman of YAF, is ACU secretary. ACU was founded in January 1965 and its purpose is to go into congressional districts to organize and explain to young Conservatives how to win elections. "Unfortunately," Jones laments, "how-to-win can be outlined in one word: It starts with a K and ends with a Y."

National membership, according to Jones, is "larger than all other political action groups on the Right combined," but the figure is "confidential." It is not as wealthy as YAF. Its 1965 income was \$208,990.

Free Society Association

The Free Society Association at 1250 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., is Barry Goldwater's baby. Founded in June 1965, the vast majority of its members are Republicans for Goldwater, though

its stated purpose is a "non-partisan crusade for political education." Its President is Denison Kitchel. It puts out a newsletter and "issue" papers, and holds a series of regional meetings. At the outset, its president forecast a quick membership of 400,000 to 500,000 and a budget of \$2 million. So far, membership is about 44,000 and its first year budget was \$500,000.

Single Purpose Groups

- President Smith/Cadywallader of the National Right-to-Work Committee calls his twelve-year-old organization of 40,000 a "true coalition of employees and employers." It works via newsletters and congressional appearances to oppose "compulsory unionism" and wants to see a national right-to-work law.

- The National Committee Against Fluoridation was created in 1952 when Washington's water was fluoridated. Miss Vera Adams, a white-haired, retired Government worker, runs the small office at 927 K Street, N.W., without pay, and fights "this thing" by flooding the land with anti-fluoridation materials, because: "It's compulsory mass medication without precedent in the history of medicine"; "it's an infringement of our constitutional rights"; "it's just a wedge . . . they've even suggested putting birth control pills in the water"; "new diseases are cropping up all the time," and they may be due to fluoridation.

"They call us crackpots, of course," she smiles, "that's a compliment."

- The nine-year-old Citizens Foreign Aid Committee has offices at 1001 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Brig. Gen. Bonner/Fellers is national chairman and appears before Congress to oppose foreign aid.

- J. Harvie/Williams, a long-time conservative, runs the inconspicuous American Good Government Society in the Dupont Circle Building, puts out a publication called The Federalist-Today, and has as his main objective making "the electoral college representative of the states as equal units, according to their numbers." Mr. Williams is a man of lonely courage. The only one who will speak of the Birch Society on-the-record—"the stinkiest thing that ever happened. . . ."

- American War Mothers, Daughters of the Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, Dames of the Loyal Legion of the U.S., and the Anti-Subversive League of South Dakota are among the 100 members of the American Coalition of Patriotic Societies. The Coalition began back in the twenties as the Citizens Committee on Immigration and still advocates a "restrictive" policy on immigration. With offices at 1028 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., they hold meetings in Washington once a year, about which a local writer says, "You wouldn't believe 'em if Charles Addams covered 'em."

(continued on page 70)



POVICH



Somehow, Washington's awful luck with sports teams has spawned a winning writer

By
WILLIAM
GILBERT



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/14/04 BY 60321 JAB/gjs/lr

PHOTOS BY J. R. BLACK

Right Wing from page 55

Strictly Publications

- Human Events, a weekly tabloid headquartered at 408 First Street, S.E., has been around since 1944, but has just recently risen in status to become one of the most important Rightist publications (circulation 95,593), ranking just below the National Review (circulation 97,024). Its 1965 income was about \$1,236,500; its D. C. circulation, about 1,200.

A Conservative insider describes it as "a buffer between the Extremists, the Radical Right, and the Right. It tries to explain to the 'nuts' that Warren is not a Communist, and like that."

A young Harvard graduate, Tom Winters, is Human Events editor, and he points out that the newspaper's masthead declares it "objective, but not impartial." He wishes other newspapers would admit the same.

Human Events is for Goldwater and his views are usually theirs. The name is taken from the Declaration of Independence: "When in the course of human events. . . ."

- Triumph, a slick magazine launched in September, is the Catholic Conservative's answer to the Catholic Liberal's Commonweal and America. Its offices are located at 1621 Twenty-first Street, N.W. Its editor is Brent Bozell, William Buckley's brother-in-law. Its 7,000 subscribers get articles like, "The Christian Church and the Democratic State" or "Transubstantiation: Anchor of Orthodoxy." On a more worldly plane, the editors are skeptical of a Catholic motion picture board's approval of Eve being shot bare-breasted, from the front, in The Bible.

- Former Indiana Congressman Donald Bruce and Fulton Lewis III joined last summer in a venture they call Newscope. From their office on Vermont Avenue, they put out a bi-weekly newsletter, The Lewis-Bruce Report, and films: "While Brave Men Die" (about the anti-Vietnam war pickets, which rents for \$25 a night, sells for \$125, and is shown in schools) and, a new one, "The Myth of the Great Society."

The newsletter, says Bruce, "simply reports on the Far Left—from their own publications." Its circulation this fall was 500. It is incorporated and under D. C. law; its purpose, according to Bruce, is "to make money." The corporation has a third man: Roy Burlew of St. Louis, Mo. Bruce is also D. C. representative for Constitutional Alliance, Inc., based in Michigan.

Activity in the Suburbs

- In Alexandria, the AMERICAN OPINION BOOK STORE (see Birch Society).

- In South Arlington, CRESTWOOD BOOKS and Kenneth Ingwalson, "publisher of (continued on page 72)"

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/3/94 BY 6029 AUC BGS GJR

Right Wing from page 70

better books . . . eyewitness reports," from whom you may buy *Your Church — Their Target*, for \$4.50, or *Rhodesia: Ordeal of Independence*, for \$2.25.

- The NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMITTEE (sometimes called the NORTHERN VIRGINIA LIBERAL ARTS COMMITTEE) is in Springfield and is headed by Edward Slone, a civilian employee in the Pentagon, who says "because the Communists are serious, they will have to be stopped, not by education by the Liberals, but by superior power and will." The committee shows films.
- The ANTI-COMMUNIST LIAISON COMMITTEE in Arlington was set up by Billy James Hargis and is led by Edward Hunter, ex-reporter and author who coined the term "brain washing." Their publication is *Tactics*.
- Call 522-0336 in McLean and you'll get "LET FREEDOM RING" from the home of Dr. Jack Messner, a dentist. Originated by Dr. William Campbell Douglass of Sarasota, Fla., the recorded message gives you Right thinking on current issues.
- At the stately stone manor at Boston, Virginia, the FREEDOM STUDIES CENTER (with a Washington liaison office on R Street listed as the Institute for American Strategy), holds seminars for special groups, like the American Legion Auxiliary.

• Duane Thorin writes books (*A Ride to Panmunjon*; *The Pugwash Movement and U.S. Arms Policy*) published through the MONTA CRISTO press (P. O. 126 Oakton, Virginia), writes canned conservative editorials for small newspapers across the country, and gives lectures. He calls himself an "independent analyst."

• In Bethesda, Md., is the MONTGOMERY COUNTY CITIZENS COUNCIL, part of the (White) Citizens Council of America. Our local chapter is headed by Lee Dodson, former Rockville carpenter.

• The Maryland Monitor in Rockville is an ultra-right weekly newspaper, two years old.

• The KU KLUX KLAN is in business in Howard County and claims members in Rockville and Wheaton. Xavier Edwards is leader.

• WOMEN FOR CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT, a national group, has a branch in Silver Spring headed by Mrs. Lois Prescott. The group began, according to Mrs. Prescott, "when the Government sent Marshals to the University of Mississippi."

• And any number of floating, name-changing committees, sometimes formed for election campaigns only. For example — the Committee to Protect Property Owners' Rights; the Crusade for Survival, in Bethesda; and the Congress for National Sovereignty, which is located in Silver Spring. □

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/3/04 BY 60324/ICB/BJA

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
MEMORANDUM

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (97-169)

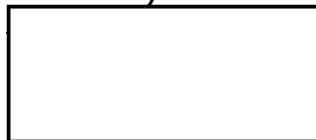
FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/29/04 BY 60290 AUC/SC/GR

Date: MAY 18 1967

b6
b7C



b2
b6
b7C
b7D

On 4/18/67, [REDACTED] (S)(H) who has furnished reliable information in the past, furnished [REDACTED] of the Weekend Edition of "The Worker." "The Worker" is an east coast Communist newspaper.

The name and address of the individual shown above was on this list.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

2/24/04
CLASSIFIED BY 60290 AUC/SC/GR
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X(1) 2/24/2029

FTT:rmv
yjc

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-38767-109
Searched

Serialized

Indexed



b6
b7C

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD

FROM : SAC, COLUMBIA (157-5235) (C)

SUBJECT:
RM
(OO:CO)

DATE: 6/30/69

b6
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/31/04 BY 60320 AUC/CE
7642

Re COlet to SV 3/27/69; and SVlet to CO 6/18/69.

On 5/16/69, [REDACTED] was interviewed at his residence, a trailer located [REDACTED] was present during the interview.

[redacted] advised that subject was an employee at the [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] rented a house, located approximately [redacted] from the trailer residence of [redacted].

soon learned that [redacted] as [redacted] neighbor, John Birch Society in Beaufort, S. C., and was passing out pamphlets entitled "You Can Help Combat Communism," to school children in the area.

b6
b7C
b7D

their belongings and left	hurriedly nacked
---------------------------	------------------

Approximately 3/1/69, [redacted] received a request from [redacted] through the mail to forward to [redacted] his W2 forms. [redacted] stated that she mailed these forms to [redacted] at a Post Office Box in Washington, D. C., but that she thereafter threw away [redacted] address and has no idea what the address might have been. b6 b7C

② - WFO
1 - Columbia
TMF/kpb
(3)

SEARCHED *dy* INDEXED *dy*
SERIALIZED *dy* FILED *dy*
JUL 7 1969
FBI — WASH. FIELD OFFICE



CO 157-5235

[redacted] furnished the following description of subject:

Sex	Male	
Race	Caucasian	b6
Height	5'9"	b7C
Weight	180 pounds	b7D
Eyes	Blue	
Hair	Blond	
Age	Middle 20s	
Complexion	Fair	
Education	[redacted]	
Peculiarities	Clears throat and spits every few minutes.	

Marital Status	Married (Wife's Name Unknown)
	Wife's description:
	5'4", 90 pounds

[redacted] furnished four pamphlets entitled "You Can Help Combat Communism," which were left by subject at the [redacted] Beaufort, S. C. b6 b7C b7D

On 6/23/69, Agent [redacted] Naval Investigative Service Office (NISO), U. S. Naval Hospital, Beaufort, S. C., advised that the only pertinent information concerning this case contained in the files of his agency was that [redacted] b6 b7C

On 6/24/69, the following individuals advised that the files of their organization contained no information identifiable with subject:

[redacted]	Greater Beaufort Credit Bureau.
[redacted]	Beaufort Police Department.
[redacted]	Beaufort County Sheriff's Office.

b6
b7C

Inasmuch as subject's whereabouts are unknown, no logical leads can be set out to locate subject; and

CO 157-5235

because of non-specific information concerning subject's activities, this matter is being placed in a closed status at this time.

Information copies are being furnished WFO as this is where subject was last reported to be.

AIC 000843
FROM: WASHINGTON

TO: BALTIMORE, MD.

INFO: DESINT WASH

SPOT REPORT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/13/04 BY 60290AUC/BSG

1. WASHINGTON

2. 116-9233-28

3. T.R.A.I.N. COMMITTEE MEETING, OXON HILL, MD., 21 AUG 69

4. 116-9231-25

5. AT 2030 HRS, 21 AUG 69, ONE ALAN DAVIDSON, FORMER SPECIAL FORCES MEDIC AND CURRENTLY A PROFESSIONAL SPEAKER, GAVE A ONE HOUR AND 10 MINUTE SPEECH, ENTITLED "THE PLOT TO SURRENDER AMERICA", TO AN ORDERLY GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY 55 PERSONS, AT THE OXON HILL, MD. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, LIVINGSTON RD., OXON HILL, MD. THE MAJORITY OF THE AUDIENCE APPEARED TO BE OVER 50 YRS OLD. DAVIDSON, A SELF IDENTIFIED MEMBER OF THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY, BEGAN HIS SPEECH WITH AN ASSAILMENT OF THE WOODROW WILSON ADMINISTRATION AND ASSAILED IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER, EVERY US ADMINISTRATION AND/OR GOVERNMENT UP TO AND INCLUDING THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION. DAVIDSON USUALLY DETAILED THE INADEQUACIES OF US FOREIGN POLICY IN DEALING WITH THE THREAT OF COMMUNIST WORLD DOMINATION. DAVIDSON SPENT APPROXIMATELY 3 TO 4 MINUTES ON HIS EXPERIENCES IN RVN, IN CONTRAST TO THE HANDBILL ADVERTISING THE MEETING. DAVIDSON WAS DRAWN INTO REMARKING, BY AN APPARENT MEMBER OF THE PRESS, THAT HE BELIEVED THE MEN CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN THE GREEN BERET INCIDENT WERE INNOCENT. THERE WAS A SHORT QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD, LASTING APPROXIMATELY 20 MINUTES AFTER DAVIDSON'S SPEECH. THE MEETING ENDED AT 2240 HRS, 21 AUG 69. DAVIDSON'S SPEECH AND APPEARANCE WERE SPONSORED BY THE PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY T.R.A.I.N. (TO RESTORE AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE NOW) COMMITTEE. THE T.R.A.I.N. COMMITTEE ALSO HAD A TABLE AT THE REAR OF THE GYMNASIUM UTILIZED FOR THE MEETING, ON WHICH VARIOUS POCKET BOOKS, BUTTONS, BUMPER STICKERS AND PHMPHLETS WERE FOR SALE. A TWO DOLLAR DONATION WAS COLLECTED PRIOR TO ADMISSION.

6. A-2

7. NONE

8. NONE

*Leaflets circulated
re this by "Let
Freedom Ring"
(522-0336)*

100-38767-160

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - WASH. F. O.	

100-38767* JBS

LAR 100-48349*

TRAM

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

Cover Sheet for Informant Report of Material
FD-303 (Rev. 3-13-68)

Date prepared

8/22/69

Date received

8/22/69

Received from (name or symbol number)

Received by

SA

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks)

☒ in person ☐ by telephone ☐ by mail ☐ orally ☐ recording device ☐ written by Informant

If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent:

Date

Date of Report

8/21/69

Dictated _____ to _____

Date(s) of activity

b6
b7C

Transcribed By SA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/13/01 BY 6210 AEBCE/KAR

Authenticated
by Informant 9/4/69

8/21/69

Brief description of activity or material

Literature by Alan Davidson, John Birch

Society, Oxon Hill, Md. 8/21/69.

File where original is located if not attached

b2
b7D

* INDIVIDUALS DESIGNATED BY AN ASTERISK (*) ONLY ATTENDED A MEETING AND DID NOT ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE. VIOLENCE OR REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES WERE NOT DISCUSSED.

This informant has furnished reliable information in the past.

1-WFO

INDEX

b2
b7D
b6
b7C

Let Freedom Ring

(522-0336)

John Birch Society

100-38767 JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

2-ALEXANDRIA (info.) (RM)

BALTIMORE (info.) (RM)

T.R.A.I.N. (To Restore

American Independence
Now)

BA and AX advised

Block Stamp

RCC:mek
(5)

100-38767-106

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 22 1969	
FBI-WASH. F. O.	

Washington, D.C.

8/21/69

Alan Davidson, who identified himself as a former special forces medic in Viet Nam spoke this date at the Oxon Hill Elementary School, Oxon Hill, Maryland. His topic was, "The Plot to Surrender America". Davidson also identified himself as a member of the John Birch Society. His talk was attended by about 60 or 70 individuals who in general were neat, well-mannered individuals general about 50 years of age.

Davidson's talk concerned itself with the inadequacies of US foreign policy in dealing with the threat of a communist world conspiracy. He assailed US administrations beginning with Woodrow Wilson and continued through to the present administration.

Only a few minutes of his talk was concerned with his experiences in Viet Nam. No racist theme was expounded.

Following his talk there was a short question and answer period; the meeting ended shortly after 10:30 PM. and was orderly.

Davidson's appearance was sponsored by the Prince Georges County T.R.A.I.N. (To Restore American Independence Now) Committee. This committee also offered for sale to those attending various pamphlets usually associated with the John Birch Society.

Leaflets announcing the above talk entitled, "Are You Being Told The Truth" were distributed in the Marlow Heights Shopping Center on 8/16/69. These leaflets were indicated to have been circulated by "Let Freedom Ring", P.O.Box 123, McLean, Va. (522-0336).

The above is a xeroxed copy of the original informant report.

All necessary action which should be taken in connection with this information has been taken.

BEING

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/13/04 BY 60290 AUC BEE/GCR

TOLD THE TRUTH ?

---About Viet-Nam

---About the hero of Hamburger Hill and seven other fine Green Beret Officers who overnight have supposedly become the world's worst criminals?

---About why the most powerful nation in history ties it's sons hands while they are being slaughtered and maimed by cold blooded communists bent on world conquest?

YOUR NEWSPAPERS, RADIO AND TV HAVE NEVER EXPOSED THE FACTS WHICH GREEN BERET VETERAN ALAN DAVIDSON WILL GIVE YOU!

Come Hear Viet-Nam veteran Alan Davidson at:

OXON HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
7701 Livingston Road, Oxon Hill, Md.

THIS THURSDAY---8:00 P.M. (August 21st)

donation

LET FREEDOM RING
P.O. BOX 123
McLEAN, VA.
522-0336

If you dial LET FREEDOM RING you will receive a newscast of facts seldom reported by your newspaper, radio or TV. It is charged, they ask. Dial 522-0336.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Baltimore, Maryland 21202

October 10, 1969

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/13/04 BY 60290/AmBCE
TGL

RE: UNKNOWN NAMED SOCIETY
COMPOSED OF REPORTED MEMBERS
OF THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED] advised Agents of the Federal Bureau of
Investigation (FBI) on October 8, 1969, that he was approached
approximately two months ago by individuals who indicated
they were members of the John Birch Society.

[REDACTED] They were aware that he was a [REDACTED] and
wanted him to [REDACTED] stated
since that time he has physically seen the group in
possession of [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

100-38967-107

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <u>JB</u>	FILED <u>JB</u>
OCT 13 1969	
FBI — WASH. FIELD OFFICE	

RE: UNKNOWN NAMED SOCIETY
COMPOSED OF REPORTED MEMBERS
OF THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY,
[REDACTED]

b7D

The group is led by [REDACTED] (phonetic),
sales representative for the [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] residing at [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Other members of the
group include [REDACTED] who owns and operates [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] has indicated he contemplates
[REDACTED]
sometime in the future and has asked [REDACTED] assistance.
The group hopes to obtain [REDACTED] as well
as a quantity of [REDACTED]

According to [REDACTED] the group has discussed
[REDACTED]

The group has expressed vehement opposition to
anything which they consider Unamerican, including black
power advocates, communists, and other radical type
organizations. They are opposed to Negroes as a group.

RE: UNKNOWN NAMED SOCIETY
COMPOSED OF REPORTED MEMBERS
OF THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY.

[REDACTED]
b7D

[REDACTED] reportedly is flying in the near future
to Chicago, Illinois where he is [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

He advised that [REDACTED] has mentioned that his
group will be ready to take care of the Communist conspiracy
when the revolution comes.

On October 8, 1969, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] was discreetly verified by Bureau Agents.

b7D

"THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS NEITHER RECOMMENDATIONS
NOR CONCLUSIONS OF THE FBI. IT IS THE PROPERTY
OF THE FBI AND IS LOANED TO YOUR AGENCY; IT
AND ITS CONTENTS ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED
OUTSIDE YOUR AGENCY."

10/10/69

AIRTEL

REGISTERED MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, BALTIMORE (157-4216)
SUBJECT: UNKNOWN NAMED SOCIETY
COMPOSED OF REPORTED MEMBERS
OF THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY,
[REDACTED]
AM - WHITE HATE GROUP

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/27/04 BY 6031AUC/CE
b7D TCR

Enclosed for the Bureau are 12 copies of LHM captioned as above. Two copies being furnished Alexandria and WFO and one copy being furnished Detroit for information.

For the information of the Bureau, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] telephonically contacted the Hyattsville RA on 10/8/69, and requested an Agent interview him concerning information he had of a white racist group. [REDACTED] stated he formerly had furnished information of excellent value to the FBI both in [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and to WFO relative to [REDACTED]. In addition, he stated he furnished information of value concerning a [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated he was furnishing the information relative to this group set forth in LHM because he did not want to see anyone get killed at this time. He was of the opinion that if the group had the opportunity they could cause serious damage to race relations. To date they have

- 2 - Bureau (Encls 12) (REGIS. MAIL)
 - 2 - Alexandria (Encls 2) (REGIS. MAIL)
 - 1 - Detroit (Encls 1) (Info) (REGIS. MAIL)
 - 2 - WFO (Encls 2) (REGIS. MAIL)
 - 3 - Baltimore
- FXO:mab
(10)

100-38967-108

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED 28	FILED 28
OCT 13 1969	
FBI - WASH. FIELD OFFICE	

BA 157-4216

not physically disrupted any individuals as a result of their inclinations. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Bureau Agents physically interviewed [REDACTED] on 10/3/69 and at the start of the interview he was advised of his rights in the event of the possibility that he himself might be involved in a Federal violation. He was told that the FBI would not instruct him relative to [REDACTED] captioned group and it was further stated that if he himself was involved in any Federal violation the facts relative to it would be discussed with the USA for prosecutive opinion.

[REDACTED] was told that the FBI would accept any information he desired to furnish but under no circumstances would he be directed as to what he should or should not do with the organization.

[REDACTED] advised he was fully aware of FBI procedures in these matters, said he understood that the FBI was not instructing him nor directing him in any way and indicated that if any additional information came to his attention concerning the group or the members of the group or any additional addresses or actions, which they contemplate, he would immediately contact the FBI.

Offices receiving this communication in whose territory reside individuals mentioned in this communication, mentioned by the group as possible targets, should notify the local police departments.

BA 157-426

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] WAS ADVISED OF THE [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b7D

Alexandria attempt to determine complete identity of [REDACTED] through telephone information set forth in LHM.

Baltimore is attempting to verify information furnished by [REDACTED] and will develop background information in [REDACTED] re reported group.

b6
b7C
b7D

Bureau, Alexandria and WFO are requested to furnish Baltimore any information in their files concerning [REDACTED]

Extra copies of LHM being forwarded to Bureau for any additional dissemination Bureau might desire to make.

12-22-69

Date prepared

12/9/69

Date received

12/9/69

Received from (name or symbol number)

[Redacted]

Received by

SA

[Redacted]

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks)

☐ in person

☐ by telephone

☐ by mail

☒ orally

☐ recording device

☐ written by Informant

If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent:

Date

Dictated

to

Date of Report

12/9/69

Date(s) of activity

Transcribed 12/9/69

Authenticated
by Informant

12/15/69

Brief description of activity or material

Report concerning JBS and Minutemen

b2
b7D

File where original is located if not attached

[Redacted]

* INDIVIDUALS DESIGNATED BY AN ASTERISK (*) ONLY ATTENDED A MEETING AND DID NOT ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE.
VIOLENCE OR REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES WERE NOT DISCUSSED.

This informant has furnished reliable information in the past.

3-WFO

1-100-39637

1-100-38767

1-157-2650

985453
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/13/04 BY 60290 AUC/BK/62

RCC:tv
(3)

Block Stamp

100-38767-109

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 9 1969	
FBI - WASH. F. O.	

12/9/69

Washington, D.C.

John Birch Society meetings held on occasion in the Washington, D.C. area since about July, 1969, appear to be generally non-racist in policy matters, however, attendance is generally completely caucasian. Meetings, speeches and publications appear to be sponsoring the conservative political cause in an orderly manner.

Sponsored speakers in the past and publications made available indicate that the JBS is hung-up on finding a communist under every bed. Little difference is made between a liberal and a communist.

There are no known Minutemen in the area that claim membership in the JBS. [redacted] who claims affiliation with the Minutemen has indicated in the past that the JBS is a mild, publically acceptable conservative group that does nothing but talk against communists.

The above is a xeroxed copy of the original informant report.

All necessary action which should be taken in connection with this information has been taken.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 1
Page 105 ~ b6, b7C, b7D